

SOVIS, Elizabeth Ann.

On Saturday, July 14, 2012, Elizabeth Ann Sovis of Edmonton, Alberta, died suddenly while cycling in Hunter River, Prince Edward Island, a short distance from the Confederation Trail. She was struck by a motor vehicle.

Elizabeth was born on February 25, 1949 in Toronto, Ontario. She attended Willowdale Middle School and Northview Heights Secondary School in Toronto. She was a graduate of the University of Toronto (Bachelor in Modern Languages), the University of New Brunswick (Bachelor in French-Language Education) and the University of Alberta (Master of Speech-Language Pathology).

Early in her career, Elizabeth taught French and English at Salisbury Composite High School in Sherwood Park, Alberta, and French at Athabasca University. Later, she worked as a Speech-Language Pathologist, in French and English schools throughout Alberta, including Fort McMurray, Cold Lake, Falher, Peace River, Grand Prairie, Athabasca, Legal, Jasper, Edmonton and Lethbridge. She also supervised the practical training of many French-speaking students in the University of Alberta's Speech-Language Pathology program.

Elizabeth was a trained vocalist who once dreamed of becoming an opera singer; she was an accomplished linguist, speaking English, French, German and Slovak. She participated in a wide range of physical activities, including synchronised swimming, cross-country skiing, mountain backpacking and bicycle touring. During her upcoming retirement, scheduled for 2013, she planned to devote her energy to the development of safe cycling trails in Alberta.

Elizabeth was loving and generous, beautiful and brilliant, determined and courageous. She profoundly touched the lives of many friends and acquaintances. She was the beloved wife of Edmund A. Aunger; devoted mother of Edmund Jr. (Linda Majcher), Gregory, and Richard (Colette); dear sister to Millie Jeffery (Norm). She was predeceased by her parents Stephen and Judith Sovis.

Edmund A. Aunger would like to express his deep and enduring gratitude for the loving support that so many Islanders provided during this devastating crisis. In most cases, he doesn't know their names; but he will never forget them. Very special thanks to RCMP Constable Mike P. Lutley, and to the staff of Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Belvedere Funeral Home and WestJet Airlines.

Dr. Allan Effa will lead a memorial service at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, July 21, 2012, at Central Baptist Church, 9419 - 95 Street, Edmonton, Alberta. Memorial donations may be made to the Trans Canada Trail Foundation www.tctrail.ca or the Mustard Seed Edmonton www.theseed.ca