

IN LOVING MEMORY



NORA MARIA ZNOTINAS

May 08, 1952 - October 19, 2024

*Beloved daughter, sister, sister-in-law, aunt,  
cousin, and friend*

# IN MEMORIAM

Nora Znotinas was an engineer, a teacher, a researcher, a photographer and an artist. She was also a daughter, sister, sister-in-law, aunt, cousin and friend.

But the most important thing you should know about Nora was that she was a lifelong learner who was deeply curious about the world around her. She spent her life mentoring others so that they could develop their own boundless curiosity, and by doing so, achieve their full potential.

Nora's desire to learn led her to choose the road less travelled. She was a trailblazer for women in STEM, becoming an engineer and then a Professor in the Department of Physics and Computer Science at Wilfrid Laurier University in 1984, when women were still rare in these fields. She excelled at Laurier, serving as department chair on multiple occasions. But although she was a very capable administrator, her greatest passion lay in teaching.

In 2007, she was awarded a much-deserved University Teaching Award. The Award recognized her teaching ability and the care she showed to her students in tracking their learning and progress. Nora's ongoing legacy is found in her students upon whom she left an indelible impact. Years after their graduations, many students remained in touch, keeping her abreast of their achievements.

Outside of the classroom, Nora travelled extensively, capturing her experiences in stunning photographs. She relished the challenge of exploring remote, far-flung places such as Antarctica, the Galapagos Islands and Bhutan. On these adventures, she was often joined by her nieces, Annie and Katherine. She ignited in them a love of travel and good food, and inspired them to pursue interesting, fulfilling careers that they would not have otherwise dreamed of.

When Nora retired in 2016, she continued to travel widely, taking photographs everywhere she went. As with everything she did, she gave photography one hundred percent of her energy, taking on leadership roles and winning photographic competitions as a member of the Highland Glen Camera Club, Grand River Imaging & Photographic Society and Canadian Association of Photographic Art. In the rare moments that she actually took a break, a good mystery novel and the latest local microbrewery beer were her favourite companions.

Nora was a devoted daughter and is survived by her mother, Birute Znotinas.  
Nora is predeceased by her brother Arvy.

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Please join us at Nora's favourite local pub, Arabella Park, on Tuesday, December 17 at 6:30pm, to share stories and memories of Nora.

## **Address**

Arabella Park Beer Bar, 740 Belmont Ave W., Kitchener, ON

## **Date**

December 17, 6:30-9:30 pm.



# IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to the Grand River Regional Cancer Centre.