

# Margaret McGee

## August 07, 1929 – February 25, 2023

Margaret McGee, 93, passed away peacefully on February 25, 2023, in Cedar Cottage, Avens Manor Yellowknife.

Margaret was born August 7, 1929, in Birmingham, England to Thomas and Agnes (Welsh) Yate. She trained as a teacher and throughout the years the teaching facet was always there. Margaret's father Tom had a boundless sense of adventure which led to immigration to Canada with Agnes in 1957. Margaret, her husband Frank and their son Charles soon joined them in Canada. Tom had a dream of working in Canada's North. After he obtained his Canadian citizenship, he got a job with the Government of Canada with a posting to Inuvik in 1964, and the whole family moved North.

Margaret's first job in Inuvik was as a teacher. She had very fond memories of those first students and was glad to see any that came in later years to visit her. She subsequently started her career as a civil servant working in housing with the Government of Canada and then the Government of the Northwest Territories and eventually the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

Margaret moved to Yellowknife in 1976 and rose to become the first female vice-president with the NWT HC. She then spent two years on leave at the Arctic Institute of North America in Calgary researching Northern housing policy and concluded her NWT civil service career as a ministerial advisor, including to Hon. Tom Butters and Hon. Richard Nerysoo. Margaret didn't stop working and serving her community after she retired from the GNWT in 1991. She worked for many years as a volunteer assistant to Bishop Denis Croteau at the R.C. Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith.

Margaret's life revolved around her family, church, music, sewing and Scouting. She played the organ at Our Lady of Victory, Inuvik and sang in the choir at St. Patrick's in Yellowknife and in the Yellowknife Choral Society. Her scouting roles included Cub leader and member of the NWT Scout Council.

Margaret is survived by her son Charles (Karen) of Liverpool, Nova Scotia, grandchildren Kelly (Graham) MacDonald of Bedford, New Hampshire, Debra (Haslan Escalante) of Yellowknife, Sean (Jacqueline) of Waterville, Nova Scotia, and 12 great-grandchildren. She was pre-deceased by her parents, her husband Frank and brother Kevin.

The family thanks the many caregivers who looked after Margaret at Cedar Cottage and Dr. Pelova.

***A funeral mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Church, Yellowknife on Thursday, March 9 at 11:00 a.m.***

***Burial will be at Lakeview Cemetery Yellowknife.***

**In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to [Avens – A Community for Seniors \(www.avensseniors.com\)](http://www.avensseniors.com) or to the [Alzheimer Society of Alberta and the N.W.T. \(www.alzheimer.ca\)](http://www.alzheimer.ca).**

