



# Edith Murray

(Sophie Edith Jane Ackerman)

Surrounded by family members, Edith Murray passed away peacefully on April 2, 2014 at the Ste. Rose Hospital.

Edith was born to William and Beatrice Ackerman on November 29, 1929 at Magnet, Manitoba. Her future mother-in-law helped at her birth.

Edith received her education at Magnet Elementary and Rorketon High School. To attend high school she had to board in Rorketon. Growing up, she was active in the Magnet community and belonged to the Boys and Girls Club and the Poultry Club. After school, she taught for 1 year at Ladysmith School near Lavenham, Manitoba. She was still friends with some of her students. On November 6, 1950 Edith married Jim Murray and moved 2 miles down the road to begin married life. Together they raised 5 children and ran a ranch. It was a busy life with a lot of hard work, but lots of love and laughter. Her family was the centre of her life. Every new daughter and son-in-law was welcomed into the family with open heart and arms. Her grandchildren held a special place in her heart and those great-grandchildren were extra special.

Edith listed her occupation as housewife, but wore many other hats. She was a gardener, cow milker, assistant ranch hand, barber, baker, collector, seamstress, artist and volunteer. She sewed clothes for her family and for many other people. She sewed many bridesmaids' dresses, often making all the dresses for a wedding party. She was thrilled to make her youngest daughter's wedding dress. She collected angels, antiques, jugs and buttons.

Her volunteer work was varied and very fulfilling. For 4-H she was a leader and judged public speaking. She also judged square dancing and jiggling competitions in Crane River.

She was very active in her local church, first in Magnet and then in Rorketon. She served on the board of Lakeside Parish for 18 years and was on several committees during that time.

She was a member of the Dr. Gendreau Personal Care Home for 20 years, 18 of which she was chair of the board.



Edith also served on the Parkland Regional Library Board and was a member of the Health Auxiliary in Ste. Rose.

Edith and Jim enjoyed their trips across Canada to attend air force reunions. They went on an Alaskan cruise and traveled to England. Edith was so thrilled to see the Queen Mother up close.

Edith and Jim loved old time fiddle music. They loved to dance and attended fiddle contests and old time dances all over Manitoba. Edith was looking forward to dancing at her grandson Morgan's wedding this summer.

Edith, along with Agnes Ackerman, planned the first Ackerman Reunion held at Magnet in 1987. She was eagerly awaiting the 10th Ackerman Reunion to be held this year in Erickson, MB. Because of the groundwork Edith and Agnes did, family ties have been strengthened.

She also planned a high school reunion which was very successful.

Edith was predeceased by her husband Jim, her parents William and Beatrice Ackerman, her siblings Edna-May, Fred, Beatrice Barnett, Ada Paradis and Sid, son-in-law Russell Contois, and great-grandson Gavin Murray.

She is survived by her children Edna, Russell (Debbie), Keith (Betty), Garth (Adele) and Bernice (Max Dillman); 12 grandchildren Kevin, Lynn (Drew), Erin (Kelly), Craig (Allison), Jared (Melissa), Sara, Tracy (Pat), Jason (Cynthia), Myles (Stephanie), Morgan (Tiffany), Murray (Sarah) and Amy; 10 great-grandchildren Keira, Rachel, Lincoln, Madison, Ryin, Alexis, Declan, Marlie, Jaxson and Kaysen. She was looking forward to meeting two more great-grandchildren this year. She is also survived by her sister Dorothy (Stan Assailly), her sister-in-law Jean Person and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Memorial service was held on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in Ste. Rose du Lac with Rev. Larry McPhail officiating. Honourary Pallbearers were her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Urnbearer was her son Russell Murray. Music was provided by her daughter-in-law Adele Murray, grandson Jason Murray, Eldon Campbell, Sandy Campbell, Franklin Mousseau and Evelyn Taylor. Her grandson Myles Murray was the eulogist, assisted by her granddaughter Lynn Branconnier. Private family interment followed at the Magnet Cemetery.