

# The Valley honors the passing of a beloved couple



George Johnston and Jeanne McRae at their home in 1986.

(Photo David Duchow)

## Local News

From the time they bought the old stone house at Cook's Lines near Rockburn in the 1960s until their passing this month, George Johnston and his wife of 60 years, Jeanne McRae, were recognized as a couple apart. Well traveled, well educated, well loved, they represented to all who have spoken to the Gleaner about them this week, a gentle, friendly, humble example of quiet courtesy and quality.

The Johnstons moved to their Cooks Lines home in 1979 when George retired from his teaching position at Carleton University, and enjoyed country life to the fullest with their children. Locals remember them as being kind and always expressing a desire to help their neighbors. In fact, they took to the country life with such a zest that George took-up bee keeping and was known to say that haying was "fun".

The couple moved to Henderson Street in Huntingdon in the 1990s and

were a familiar sight walking arm in arm along village streets. Always together, always serene. In recent years, due to failing health, they moved back to Elgin to be closer to family.

George Johnston died in Huntingdon on August 9 at the age of 90. His beloved wife Jeanne McRae Johnston died peacefully within a fortnight at her home in Elgin on Aug. 20 at the age of 87. A memorial service for the couple will be held at the Huntingdon United Church on Friday, Aug. 27 at 2:00 p.m.

To the world George Johnston was known as a scholar of languages and a poet. Internationally acclaimed and published, his works are listed as his life's accomplishments in the many national dailies reporting on his passing. Jeanne was wife, mother and R.N. But in the Valley George and his gentle wife Jeanne leave another legacy - that of a loving couple, parents, friends, neighbors, and inspirations for living life to the fullest.

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## Birth and Deaths

Card of Thanks, In Memoriams, Engagements

### DIED

**CLELAND, Donald** - From Hemmingford on August 16, 2004 passed away Mr. Donald Cleland, age 76 years. He leaves to mourn Marguerite Benoit Cleland, Doris Dauphinais (Marcel), his grandchildren Rachel, Annick, Joel, his sister Jean Wagner (Joe), sister-in-law, nieces, nephews. By the request of the deceased there was no viewing. A private memorial will be held. Arrangements entrusted to Gilles Serre Funeral Home Inc., Hemmingford, (450)246-3988.

**DAUPHINAIS, Viola** - On Saturday, August 21, 2004, age 92 years, at the Florence Groulx Nursing Home, Viola Garceau, beloved wife of the late John Dauphinais (1979). Survived by her loving family Savanne and Harvey, mother-in-law of Ghislaine and Marjorie. Beloved grandmother of Judy, Ricky, Patrick, Randy and Alyssia. She will be remembered lovingly by her great-grandchildren Chelsea, Channa, Jessica, George, Brandon, John and Sabrina. Resting at the J.M. Sharpe Funeral Home, 461 Champlain, Hemmingford. Funeral service was held Monday, August 23 at 11 a.m. at St. Romain's Church. Interment St-Romain Cemetery. Visitation was held Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations to the Women's Auxiliary of the Barrie Memorial Hospital or the charity of your choice would be appreciated.

**JOHNSTON, (née McRae), Jeanne** - (1918-2004), wife and mother, R.N. and student of piano, died peacefully August 20, 2004, at her home in Elgin, Quebec. Predeceased by her husband George Johnston (1913-2004), survived by her children Bob (Laurel Wood), Peggy Fisher (John), Andrew (Caroline Tennent), Cathleen (David Duchow), Nora Quinn (Jamie), Mark and grandchildren Brigid (Roland Fowlow), Luke, Maggie, Seamus, Gabriel, Solomon, Katy, John Olaf, Jonathan, Astrid, Laura, Miles, Anna and Julian, great-grandchild Elias Fowlow, and her brother Bob McRae. A memorial service for Jeanne and George will be held at the Huntingdon United Church on Friday, August 27 at 2:00 p.m.

**LEBLANC, Adrienne (née St-Onge)** - In Valleyfield on August 22, 2004, at the age of 81 years, passed away Mrs. Adrienne St-Onge, formerly from Ste-Agnès de Dundee, wife of the late Aimé Leblanc. She leaves to mourn her children Alcide (Louise), Paul (Evelyn), Pierrette, Nicole (Raymond) and Richard (Marie-Hélène), 13 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 3 sisters, 2 brothers, as well as many relatives and friends. There will be visitation on Saturday, August 28, from 9:30 a.m. at Rodrigue Montpetit & Fils Inc. Funeral Parlour, followed by the funeral at 11:00 a.m. in Ste-Agnès de Dundee's Church. Interment, cemetery of Ste-Agnès de Dundee. Donations to the Centres d'accueil du Haut St-Laurent Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

**PRIMEAU, Eldas** - 1921-2004 - In Ormstown on August 18, 2004, at the age of 82 years passed away Mr. Eldas Primeau, husband of Mrs. Donald Primeau, resident of Ormstown. Besides his wife, he leaves to mourn his step-daughters, his 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, his sister Ghislaine, his brothers and sisters-in-law, as well as nephews and nieces, relatives and friends. Funeral will be held on Saturday, September 18 at 2:00 p.m. in St-Malachie's Church in Ormstown, followed by interment in Ormstown Cemetery. Donations to the Ladies's Auxiliary of Ormstown would be appreciated. Funeral arrangements by Ernest Montpetit & Fils Inc., 200 Champlain, Valleyfield, 450-373-3511, Fax 450-373-3515. The family will receive condolences at the church from 1:00 p.m.

**SMYTH, Lyman E.** - In Huntingdon on August 20, 2004, after a courageous battle passed away Mr. Lyman E. Smyth, age 63 years. Survived by his sister Isabelle (George Zeldenrust), his nephew Michael and his sister-in-law Denise. Predeceased by his brother Kevin. Sadly missed by his four-legged friends Dolly and Jurgie. Visitation was held at Rodrigue Montpetit et Fils Funeral Home, 170 Chateauguay Street, Huntingdon Sunday, August 22, 2004 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., and Monday August 23, 2004 from 1 p.m. followed by the funeral at St-Joseph's Church, Huntingdon at 2:30 p.m. Burial at St-Joseph's Cemetery, Huntingdon. Donations to Huntingdon County Hospital, 198 Chateauguay Street, Huntingdon would be appreciated by the family.

### DIED

**TANNAHILL, Danny** - Suddenly in Ormstown on August 21, 2004 at the age of 61 years, beloved husband of Judy Laporte and father of David, Terry (Ronald Honsinger), Darren (Lise Grenier) and Mark (Jane Johnson). He also leaves to mourn his 7 grandchildren and their partners as well as his brother Ernie (Barbara Steele), nephews and nieces, family and friends. Funeral service will be held on Wednesday, August 25 at 2 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, Herdman (1045 Chemin Brook (corner Rte. 202)). Visitation as of 12 p.m. at McGerrigle Funeral Home Inc., Ormstown. Interment at the Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations to the Women's Auxiliary of the Barrie Memorial Hospital, 28 Gale St., Ormstown, QC J0S 1K0 would be appreciated.

### CARD OF THANKS


The sisters and brothers of the late Lois Robinson McCaig would like to thank their many relatives and friends for their tremendous showing of sympathy and support at the time of the tragic death of their beloved sister. Your donations, flowers, cards, gifts of food, visits, attendance at the Memorial Service were all so much appreciated and will always be remembered. We would also like to thank our Mutual Aid Firefighters for their quick response and aid at the scene of the accident. A special thanks to Rev. Bryce for her guidance and her caring words at the Memorial Service and to the pipers, organist, choir and family participants. All this created a fitting tribute to a very special person.

With our sincere thanks,  
Helen, Jean, Ruth, Alan, Donald and families

We would like to thank everyone who helped us to celebrate Saturday the fourteenth.

Carol & Alan

*Died*



*Shirley Gertrude Brown*

The death of Shirley G. Brown of French Lake, NB occurred on Wednesday, August 18th, 2004. Born in Moncton, NB, she was the daughter of Irene (Rogers) and the late Wendall Duncan and wife of Larry M. Brown.

Shirley was a member of the French Lake Baptist Church and the French Lake Seniors Group.

Survived by her husband, Larry; mother, Irene (Rogers) Duncan; children, Terry Leaman (Carol) of Fredericton, NB, Harry Leaman (Dianne) of Edmonton, AB and Coralee Leaman (Glyn) of Saint John, NB; step-children, Darwin Brown (Linda) of Pembroke, ON, Danny Brown of Ottawa, ON, Ronald Brown (Lynn) of Pembroke, ON, Debbie Lewis (Glen) of Pembroke, ON and Shelley Klentz (Peter) of Pembroke, ON; sister, Sheila Northrup (Avar) of Baltimore, ON and nine grandchildren.

Predeceased by her father, Wendall and a foster daughter, Georgina Roach.

Visitation was held at **Oronoto Select Community Funeral Home** on Friday, August 20th, 2004 from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. A funeral service was held at the French Lake Baptist Church on Saturday, August 21st, 2004 at 2:00 pm. Rev. Roger Richardson officiated. Interment took place in the Maplewood Cemetery in Petitcodiac, NB. In lieu of flowers, donations to the French Lake Baptist Church Building Fund (Wheelchair ramp fund), would be appreciated by the family. [www.oronotofh.com](http://www.oronotofh.com)