

MERRY, Janet Ellis



Age 85, passed away peacefully August 17, 2014. Born and brought up in Point Prim Lighthouse, Bayview, Digby, she was a daughter of the late Frank Wilson and Janet (Ellis) Wilson. She

attended a one-room schoolhouse grades 1-8, then Digby Academy graduating with honors. Following this she graduated as a Registered Nurse from Halifax Children's Hospital and as a Certified Dispenser from Halifax School of Pharmacy. She married Eugene Merry and moved to Lawrencetown, Annapolis Co., where they opened Merry's Drug and Variety Store and Merry's Toyland. Merry's Toyland became very popular throughout the valley and other parts of Nova Scotia. Member of Lawrencetown United Church and active in all community activities, she began curling in Bridgetown Curling Club and moved on to become Past Presidents of Bridgetown Curling Club, Nova Scotia Curling Association and Canadian Curling Association. She was inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame, Nova Scotia Heritage Hall of Fame, MacDonald Museum Wall of Fame and Bridgetown and Area Hall of Fame. Her involvement in Lawn Bowls began in Middleton, then Bedford. She was Past President Bedford Bowls, Nova Scotia Bowling Association and Lawn Bowls Canada. She is survived by daughter, Jane Wentzell, Fall River; son, John (Terry) Merry, Bridgetown; grandchildren, Amanda (Darren) MacLeod, Adam, Jody (Corrina) Wentzell, Curtis (Amy) and Erica Merry; great-grandchildren, Kaleb and Meagan MacLeod and Dylan Wentzell; brother, Robert (Ruth) Wilson, Digby, and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by sisters, Betty Hudgins, Helen Fleet, Mary Hollihan; brothers, Frank and Dickie Wilson; son-in-law, Robert Wentzell. Visitation will be held on Thursday, August 28, from 7-9 p.m. and a Celebration of Life Friday, August 29, at 11 a.m., both in St. Johns United Church, 3360 Highway No. 2, Fall River, Rev. Matthew Fillier officiating. A reception will follow the service. Family interment at a later date in Bayview Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations to Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia.



Janet Merry

Builder

Born in Digby on August 22, 1928, Janet Merry first became a member of the Bridgetown curling club in 1953. She was elected to the local executive in 1959, serving as President of the Ladies Division from 1965 to 1967. She was also at the helm of the Mixed Curling League for a ten year period beginning in 1955.

In 1967 she was elected second vice-president of the Nova Scotia Ladies Curling Association and in 1971 she became the president of the provincial body. In 1973 Merry functioned as vice-chairperson of the Provincial Senior Ladies Championship. Ten years later, she took full responsibility of the same event, fittingly enough held at the Bridgetown club.

In the years 1970-71 and 1974, she was Nova Scotia's observer at the Canadian Ladies Curling Association Council and also served as the provincial delegate to the parent body's council. In 1971, she traveled to Ottawa as Nova Scotia's delegate to the first Canadian Senior Ladies' Curling Championship. Janet was elected second vice-president of the Canadian Ladies Curling Championship in 1975 becoming its president two years later.

She attended meetings in Scotland, Sweden, United States and various parts of Canada as a member of an ad hoc committee. As the first female to be appointed to the Seagram Mixed Curling Policy Committee, she traveled to view championship play in Saskatoon, Prince George and St. John's.

In 1977, she was awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal for outstanding contribution to amateur sport and, in 1979, was presented with the Sport Nova Scotia service award for curling. On March 10, 1983, in Sudbury, Ontario, Janet Merry was inducted, as a builder, into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame. She is also a member of the N.S. Sports Hall of Fame.