

Edna Hazel Carey (nee Wolff)

Edna Hazel Wolff was born on March 16, 1925 in a house on Landigan Street in Arnprior ON to Anna (nee Klapel) and William Wolff - a baby sister for Cecil and Alma. Seven years later the family welcomed Earl.

Edna attended elementary and high school in Arnprior. She was active in sports and in the activities at St. John's Lutheran Church.

In September 1943 at the age of 18, Edna and her friend Isobel (McNab) Munro headed off to study at the Ottawa Civic Hospital School of Nursing, living in the residence on Parkdale Avenue. In the next 3 years Edna forged some lifelong friends with her classmates and she went on to attend many nursing class reunions. Following graduation from Class 46B in June 1946, Edna returned to Arnprior and began her nursing career at the Arnprior & District Memorial Hospital. Six years later she assumed the role of nursing Superintendent, overseeing the nursing staff and ordering of medical supplies and a position on the hospital board.

In 1954, Edna's adventurous spirit took her a little west to the new Health Centre at the Chalk River Project of Atomic Energy of Canada and the start of her career in occupational health. It was there that Edna met Douglas Martin Carey (born June 25, 1921) and they were married on September 1, 1956 in St. John's Lutheran Church in Arnprior. Edna and Doug lived briefly in Pembroke before moving to an apartment in Deep River, and they eventually built a house there.

Edna and Doug moved to Ottawa in 1966 when Doug was transferred there by AECL. Edna worked at Computing Devices in Bells Corners, then at Digital Equipment of Canada in Carleton Place and later in Kanata. In 1978 Edna and Doug moved to Arnprior. Edna retired from DEC in 1990 after 18 years there.

Edna served on the board of directors of the Arnprior & District Hospital for 10 years, and she volunteered through the Hospital Auxiliary for 20 years.

Throughout her life, Edna was committed to her church families and she happily and competently served in many volunteer capacities including church councils, as a representative in regional and national organizations of the Lutheran church, and in women's organizations in the Lutheran and Anglican churches.

Edna loved to travel and she and Doug took many trips within Canada, including several trips to visit Alma and her family in Edmonton, to the USA, the UK and, Europe and the Caribbean. Edna favoured classical music and she enjoyed many performances at the NAC, and music themed excursions to Germany. Edna made friends wherever she went – in her neighbourhoods, at school, work, church, travel tours – and she maintained these friendships throughout her life. Family was very important to Edna, and she and Doug happily welcomed and befriended those who married into her extended family.

After 51 years of marriage, Doug died in 2008. Edna was also predeceased by her brother Cecil in 1968 and her sister Alma in 2006.

Edna is survived by her brother Earl Wolff, her cousins June Wolff, Beryl Clark, and John Boehmer, many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, great great nieces and nephews, and descendants of her cousins.