

McKenna Marjorie

City's Good Samaritan honored

By CHRIS MALETTE
Staff Reporter

For 66 years, Marjorie McKenna has been a familiar face around Foster Ward - and particularly St. Paul's Mission Church there.

Saturday, more than 100 of her friends from the Foster Ward area came to wish Marjorie a happy 85th birthday and relive some of the tales of her good deeds working with the church and the people of the Ward.

"You've heard that (former long-time alderman) Art Keegan was known as the mayor of Foster ward," says McKenna's daughter, Maxine, "well, Mom's his assistant mayor."

Marjorie's party Saturday at the Belleville Kiwanis Centre was by no means a retirement party, said Maxine.

"Oh, she's not retiring from anything," she added. "She's still very active in the church and is affiliated with St. Thomas Church. But, she still keeps most active in the Progressive Conservative Party."

Indeed, her work for the Tories did not go unnoticed on her birthday.

Marjorie received best wishes from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his wife, Mila; Tory provincial candidate for Quinte, Neil Robertson, as well as Ontario Premier Frank Miller.

Marjorie McKenna has lived in Foster Ward for more than 65 years and said Saturday she wouldn't want to live anywhere else.

"The people of Foster Ward are the greatest people going. I wouldn't leave there for a minute," said Marjorie.

During her years' work with the Mission Church in Foster Ward, Marjorie taught Sunday school and many of her former Sunday school pupils were on hand to wish her well on her birthday.

"It was quite a party," she said Sunday. "Didn't break up until 11:30 at night. When the music stopped everyone went home, but they had a great time while they were there."

The fete was organized by her daughters, Maxine, June, Dorothy and Nellie-Jean. Marjorie was

widowed 16 years ago when husband, James, passed away, said Maxine.



Marjorie McKenna celebrated her 85th birthday Saturday with a grand party at the Belleville Kiwanis Centre. Mrs. McKenna, centre, has been active in politics and church work in the Foster Ward area of the city for more than 60 years and many of her

friends and church associates attended Saturday's party to wish her well. Seen here with Mrs. McKenna are her daughters, Maxine, right, and June. The woman's daughters organized the party for their mother.

(Photo - Chris Malette)

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