

McWilliams, Mary Elizabeth

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Intelligencer photo by Jennifer Bell

Celebrates 100th

Mary Elizabeth McWilliams celebrated her 100th birthday with a tea for family and friends at Hastings Manor in Belleville Friday afternoon. Born to parents James and Emma McWilliams on Concession 5 of Tyendinaga Oct. 28, 1900, Ms. McWilliams attended Tyendinaga's SS#17 school and then later Notre Dame in Kingston before becoming a bookkeeper, first at the Shannonville Canning Factory and later at Hawkins Cheezies. She moved to Belleville in the 1970s and lived in her own homes until moving to Hastings Manor 10 years ago, said great-niece Helen Matthews. She never married,

saying jokingly "that nobody asked me." Miss McWilliams' sister Frances Shannon, who died in 1980, lived to the age of 101, proving that longevity runs in the family. Shown here with the cake made for her by Hastings Manor, Miss McWilliams was joined by family members (left to right) niece Angela Guay, niece Mary Fowler, great-niece Helen Matthews, great-niece-in-law Doreen Nash, and first cousins Annie and Bernard (not shown) Freeman. She also has nieces and nephews in Peterborough, Pickering, Corbyville and Stoney Creek.

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