

Love story crossed decades

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PICTON - A love story that spanned nearly eight decades ended Sunday with the death of Bernard Morris, 95, a resident of Picton Manor Nursing Home. He and his wife, the former Ida May Ryckman, had celebrated their 78th wedding anniversary on Dec. 13, 1982 and were Prince Edward County's longest married couple.

The couple met while attending the same rural school and frequently saw one another at church services. On Sunday nights, after church, Morris courted his bride-to-be, walking her home to say goodnight at the front gate. Her father interrupted on several occasions to remind the pair that it was after 9 p.m.

Married on Dec. 13, 1905 at Bloomfield United Church by the Rev. D.S. Houck, the bridal couple had danced



BERNARD MORRIS

until dawn at a party the night before. Honeymoons were not traditional at the time of the wedding and the bride and groom, both 17 years of age, immediately settled into married life at a farm at Huff's Corners. They later lived on farms in Hillier and Cherry Valley and, in 1929, moved to Picton.

In 1980, Mrs. Morris became a resident at Picton Manor Nursing Home and her husband joined her there several months ago. He had been in good health until the time of his death, Sunday morning.

He is survived by his wife and a daughter, Eva Gledhill of Chateauguay, Que. A son, Irwin predeceased him.

Funeral service was scheduled at 2 p.m. today (Tuesday) at the Hicks Funeral Home with Rev. Ed Horton of Picton United Church officiating. Interment was in Glenwood Cemetery.

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