

Edna Philp was dedicated teacher

Edna Philp, who taught for some years in Centreton and Dundonald, died at the age of 95 on December 24 at Lak-eridge Health Centre in Bowmanville.

Mrs. Philp was born in Norwood December 22, 1906, to Thomas and Jane Duvall Cross. Mr. Cross was killed in the Battle of the Somme in the First World War when his daughter was 10 years old. And not long after that, Mrs. Cross was killed by an automobile. Mrs. Philp went to live with her grandmother and grandfather, and her brothers and sister went to foster homes.

Mrs. Philp attended normal school in Peterborough, and began teaching at the

age of 16 in the Apsley area. She met her husband Howard (Hap) Philp while teaching in Northumberland. Their son Ron and daughter Marilyn were born in Shiloh in 1935 and 1937.

When Mr. Philp enlisted in the air force, they sold the farm. Because Mrs. Philp got a teaching job in Tyrone, that is where the family moved.

Mrs. Philp taught in Tyrone for 10 years, then in Maple Grove for three, then at Bowmanville Central School until she retired. For the first 20 years after her retirement, she kept busy with Bible groups.

"She will be sadly missed by so many

lives she had touched," said her daughter Marilyn Phasey.

Mrs. Philp was predeceased by her husband, her sister Lillian and her brothers George, Percy, Bill, Al and Bob Duvall.

She is survived by her son Ron and his wife Joyce of Oshawa, and by Mrs. Phasey and her husband David of Colborne. She is also survived by grandchildren Wayne, Kathy, Brenda, Karen, Wendy, Margaret, Rhonda, Cheryl and Christina, as well as by 17 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

She will be interred at Shiloh Cemetery.

Patricia Kernaghan, a community legend,

Known as something of a community legend in Haldimand Township, Patricia Kernaghan passed away at home in Grafton last week at age 72.

Born Patricia Harnden, she married Jack Kernaghan on September 17, 1949, in Haldimand Township, says her daughter Peggy Thomas. But much of her life was shaped before that with her devotion — and that of her sisters Eileen and Shirley — to sports.

Mrs. Thomas thought of her mother and aunts when she saw the movie *A League of Their Own*. They used to wear those silly little skirts as uniform in their own softball days. It was probably 1945, Mrs. Thomas recalls, when her mother pitched her team into the all-Ontario championship.

"We all followed suit," Mrs. Thomas said.

With their parents' enthusiastic encouragement, the four children took to the area's ball fields and hockey rinks — though Mrs. Thomas' sister Shelley preferred the score-keeping and organizing side of sports, which she still does with her own children.

If you want to know about brother Marty's career, Mrs. Thomas said, check out a large display in the Grafton arena's upstairs seating area. He was scouted for the Camrose, Alta., team at 18 then played in Calgary and was finally scouted to Sioux City, Iowa. Marty played on a gold medal-winning team at the Pan Am Games and was once ranked the best fastball player in the world. His parents travelled extensively to keep up with it all.

Still in Sioux City, Marty is now a pilot. Mrs. Thomas is a Cobourg police dispatcher. Her sister Shelley Rutherford is a homemaker and volunteer. Her brother Sandy owns the Husky Oil service station complex on Highways 400 and 89 near Barrie. Among the four of

them, they provided Mrs. Kernaghan with 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In their early years, the Kernaghans supported their family with their Shell Oil farm tank dealership. Mrs. Kernaghan would do the administration in their home while her husband delivered the furnace and stove oil — until he suffered severe burns on his right side when a gas truck exploded, Mrs. Thomas said. Then, her mom pitched in for six or seven months and did the driving too, with her father working the gears for her.

Grafton resident Anne Raymond, who knew Mrs. Kernaghan all her life through mutual family ties, recalls her driving her boys to hockey practice at 5 a.m.

"As long as she's had kids, she's been involved," Mrs. Raymond said. "She was secretary for the recreation board, starting back in the early 1970s, and she was secretary for minor hockey maybe even earlier than that."

Mrs. Kernaghan was an active volunteer for St. Andrew's United Church, and a longtime member of the Northumberland Health Care Centre auxiliary, Mrs. Raymond added, since her father had been on the hospital's third floor and she visited him daily to feed him. When he died, Mrs. Kernaghan stayed on. She was a past auxiliary secretary, and retained her membership all her life.

Mrs. Kernaghan was still the recreation board secretary when she died, and only left minor hockey about two years ago, Mrs. Raymond said.

NHCC auxiliary president Mim Hadden first met Mrs. Kernaghan when their boys played hockey together in Grafton.

"She and (her sister) Shirley were the salt of Grafton," Mrs. Hadden said.

"And Pat and Jack were always there when things were needed. Pat was such a great person. Certainly, she was a very vital part of the auxiliary membership, and always there if we needed her."

"She always had a list and was always very organized," Mrs. Raymond said.

"She would have this list every day and cross things off — the things that didn't get done, she would transfer to the next day. In that way, she was organized and kept everybody else in her life organized. She looked after Jack, she looked after her family, she looked after those she was connected with."

"She was very efficient. If she committed herself to doing something, you knew it was going to get done. That's all there was to it," Mrs. Raymond said.

Mrs. Thomas remembers her mother as a caring and thoughtful person who always put others before herself. She spent her last months teaching her husband to cook, do laundry, grocery-shop and take care of himself.

She also left her children enduring gifts, like the competitive spirit they all share.

"And we are all cursed with perfectionism because Mom always said, if you are going to do something, do it right. I do the housework, and I can still hear her voice saying, 'Wait, you missed a spot.'"

"She never complained, and she was going through a lot of pain. But people would never know what kind of day she was having. She was one in a million."

Mrs. Kernaghan was predeceased by her sister Eileen, and is survived by her husband Jack, her sister Shirley Johnston of Grafton, her four children, 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

— CECILIA NASMITH