



## Mrs. Theresa Geraldine Patterson

November 16, 1921 - January 6, 2020

Our sweet Mom went to be with angels on the morning of January 6 at the Rockyview Hospital in Calgary, at the grand old age of 98 years. Her Epiphany was to go the Light after a brief illness.

Theresa is survived by her loving husband, Ed Poffenroth, also 98. Mom and Ed got married in May of 2014, after the great flood of 2013, so they had five great years together. She is also survived by her four children: David (Felicity), Louise (Eldon), Anne (Chris), and Don (Jill); grandchildren Ian (Illisha), Cathy (Steve), Mathew, Christa, Lindsie (Denis), Erin (Lawrence), Claire (Michael), Kelly (Otgo), Jamie (Nara), Tanya, Michael (Chelsey), and Jennifer; Great grandchildren Atlas, Hannah, Orion, Josie, Kian, Roanan, Gavan, Mateja, Healy, Michelle, Thomas, Levi, Wyatt, Maya and Ashton; her niece Dorothy (Keith), and sons Dale (Karen), Randy (Brenda), Rick (Pam), and children Riley, Evan, Anna, Claire and Keira; David Gant; and her sisters Jeannine and Lauren.

Theresa is predeceased by our Dad Arthur Patterson, to whom she was married for 66 years, great granddaughter Cassandra, her sisters Lois and Fay, and brother Harvey.

She was born in Bassano, Alberta, to Royal and Janette Burrows, where she grew up with great gardens and the joys and sorrows and discipline of farm life. When she married Dad in 1941, she took up farming alongside Dad, raising cows, horses, pigs and chickens, driving the tractor and the team, and tending her garden and her 4 children, Grandma Edith and Dorothy, with the same devotion.

In 1960 the University opened in Calgary, and Mom was there in her new Volkswagen on opening day. She went on to teach Grade 3 at Red Deer Lake School for 18 years, and still greeted all her former students by name until the end of her life.

Theresa was always devoted to her community and her neighbours, her church, the Ladies Guild at Christ Church, the Millarville Hort Club, the Centennial Peony Bed and Gardening Under the Arch. Mom was Secretary-Treasurer of the Millarville Races for

many years, calculating the odds at the Pari-mutuel Betting by hand. She and her Mom Janette, her sisters and daughters took on feeding the judges at the Priddis and Millarville Fair for over 50 years with their famous lunch of baked ham, salads and homemade pies. The judges came as much for the lunch as for the judging! Her life has gone from the Roaring 20's through the Great Depression, World War II, to the Space Age and beyond.

Her kind of grit and devotion and talent and loving values will not pass this way again.

Memorial Donations can be made in her name to the Anne Vale Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Millarville Hort Club, c/o Sheila 403-931-3989.

At Mom's request, a Celebration of Life will be held for her at Christ Church Millarville in July 2020, when the peonies are in bloom.

To send condolences and view Theresa's Tribute Page please visit <http://www.lylereeves.com> . Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass) 403.652.4242.

# Comments

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“ So very sorry for your loss. Mrs. Patterson was probably my very first teacher when we moved to Canada in 1966, and certainly the only one that I still saw every now and then, over the years, and chatted with. A wonderful lady.

**Avril Chattaway** - January 19, 2020 at 08:25 PM

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“ Our deepest condolences on the loss of your Mom, Anne. She lived a full and long life.

Sylvia & Jenna Lambert

**Sylvia Lambert** - January 18, 2020 at 08:37 PM

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“ John & I we're fortunate to have spent some time at the PATTERSON farm in the 90's. We boarded our young horses there off and on, cut their lawns, listened to Art's poems, checked out the greenhouse, used their round pen, and generally just enjoyed the peacefulness of the farm. Theresa was the proverbial "pillar of the community" and her drive and spirit will be missed by many. Her dedication to the Millarville Horticultural Club and the Millarville Fair is still recognized today and we are most grateful for it. Thank you Theresa

Love,  
John & Jill Dakers

**Jill** - January 18, 2020 at 06:39 PM



“ ..."were fortunate..."

**Jill** - January 18, 2020 at 06:40 PM

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“ No summer was complete without a visit to the Macklins and the Pattersons. Swimming in the dugout and picking off leeches, getting up to no good in the hay loft, riding (and falling off) ponies, riding on the fender of a tractor, trying to sew with a treadle machine and repeatedly breaking the thread, which Theresa patiently re-threaded until I finally sewed through my finger, defeating even her. And food, always wonderful food and beautiful and useful garden, presided over by Mrs. Patterson. Louise, Dave, Anne and Don, and all your many descendants, my deep, and personal condolences at the ending of the legend that is Theresa.  
Much love,  
Liz Westbrook-Trenholm

Liz Westbrook-Trenholm - January 14, 2020 at 10:14 AM

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“ In loving memory of my sister in law Theresa



Kathryn Burrows - January 14, 2020 at 02:08 AM

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“ I remember joining Theresa and my mother-in-law Dorothy Meadows on a couple of Seniors field trips . Theresa was an absolute joy, she had great tenacity, and a wonderful sense of humour . She truly was a grand Lady.  
David and I are thinking of you all . We know she will. Be missed .



**David & Tammy Meadows** - January 13, 2020 at 11:16 AM



“ I have known Theresa for 75 years, as a neighbour, and a friend

She was a fabulous community worker at Millarville Race Track,

as well as Christ Church Millarville. Her smiling face and her

warm heart will be missed by all of us.

Bill and Edie Jan 20 /2020

**BILL AND EDIE JACKSON** - January 20, 2020 at 06:26 PM

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“ Sharon & Gary Liddell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Theresa Geraldine Patterson



**Sharon & Gary Liddell** - January 11, 2020 at 10:18 PM

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“ My sincere condolences to all the Patterson family on the loss of your mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. What a truly kind and generous woman.

**Patti Frey** - January 11, 2020 at 10:59 AM

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“ Marilyn Howe lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Theresa Geraldine Patterson



**Marilyn Howe** - January 11, 2020 at 10:55 AM

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“ We are sorry for your loss and send our condolences and love to all of the family She had a great long life for sure. The COATES family

**Barry Coates** - January 17, 2020 at 09:18 PM

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“ Dear Felicity and family, I never meet this fabulous woman but heard you talk of her many times. Please know that I think of you and your family in this time of loss. What an amazing woman! Gaye Moss

**Gaye Moss** - January 11, 2020 at 10:19 AM

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“ Ruth and Ray Keighley send our condolences to the family. We were so privileged to have a short visit with Theresa and her daughter Louise last November after an art show I was part of in Bragg Creek. I will always remember Mrs Patterson as my Grade 4 teacher, neighbour, and mentor. She encouraged this young Metis artist to develop his talents and later I share art workshops across Saskatchewan to many communities and students. I would mention how she was empress the assignments I handed in with all animal and bird drawings around the boarder of the pages. I would invited to the farm to visit Donny and work on drawing and paintings of which i won prizes at the Millerville Fair and Calgary Stampede student art show. Theresa will be truly missed and truly remembered!

**Raymond E. Keighley** - January 11, 2020 at 10:09 AM

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“ Theresa was a colleague, a mentor and a dear friend. In her later years she was a wonderful class grandmother to my Grade 1s. She was kind and caring and took on the ,world and all its trials with determination and a smile. She was an amazing lady and will be missed but never forgotten. My condolences to her family. Hers was truly a life well lived and an inspiration to all who were lucky enough to know her. Donna Hopkins

**Donna Hopkins** - January 09, 2020 at 04:27 PM



“ Thank you Donna for your kind words. She adored her time with your grade 1s.

**Cathy** - January 10, 2020 at 07:06 PM

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“ Theresa was one of those “grand old gals”. She was thoughtful, fun, well read, loving and kind. She will be missed by her extensive family and shirttail relatives like me

**Elaine Mason** - January 08, 2020 at 12:10 PM



“ We were sorry to hear of Theresa’s passing. A wonderful lady and always so welcoming into her home. Certainly an honour to have known her. Irene and Ernie Smith

**Irene & Ernie Smith** - January 13, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ A true icon to the country lifestyle and our community. A special friend of mother’s, bonding over flowers, the fair and farm life. A great life for your family to celebrate. Terry and Joan Allwarden

**Allwarden Terry and Joan** - January 20, 2020 at 04:50 PM