



Mrs. Barbara Joan Tarney

November 16, 1933 - April 21, 2025

Barbara Joan Tarney (nee: Green) passed away surrounded by family & friends on Monday, April 21st. She was 91 years old. Barb is survived by her three children, Doug (Lori), Dan (Caroline), and Lona; her granddaughter, Anne; sister Donna Baergen, and brother Craig (Lydia) Green. Barb was predeceased by her parents, Bob and Cora Green, and by her husband Don. She also leaves behind many cousins, nieces, nephews, and good friends.

Barb was born in Northern Alberta on November 16, 1933 on the south shore of Lesser Slave Lake. She was the eldest child of Bob and Cora Green. Barb loved the lake and returned to it every summer throughout her lifetime.

Her mother ran the local post office in Widewater, Alberta, which was attached to the family home, and her dad had a small sawmill. The family raised mink and grew a large garden. During WWII, when gasoline was in short supply, community residents sometimes came to collect the mail with dog sleds. No one had much money in those days, but the sense of family and community was strong.

In 1950, Barb was part of the very first graduating class from Kinuso School. She attended university in Edmonton and earned a teaching certificate. While attending university, she encountered Peter Lougheed and began a life-long involvement in politics.

Barb returned north to start her teaching career in a series of one-room school houses along the lakeshore. Her teaching assignments brought her to the town of Slave Lake, where she met her future husband Don Tarney. They were married in 1953. Don was a square dance caller, and the community dances were very popular in that small community. When Don and Barb danced, it was “poetry in motion” (or so they told their kids).

Don was the principal of the Slave Lake school, and the young couple lived in a teacherage in the school yard. Their first son Doug was born in Edmonton, and Dan arrived in High Prairie two years later. They moved to Duchess in the summer of 1958, and Lona was born in the Brooks Hospital later that year.

The move to Southern Alberta was only supposed to last one year but, for Barb, it stretched into 48 years! The Tarney family enjoyed small-town life in Duchess and formed a life-long friendship with the Anne and Bernie Scheuerman family. Barb and Don both taught school. The kids enjoyed a free-range lifestyle that included bike riding, tree fort construction, swimming in irrigation ditches, and many sports. During summer holidays, Don marked departmental exams in Edmonton, and Barb would take the kids north to the family compound of cabins on Lesser Slave Lake. Family members would gather there each summer to swim, fish, pick berries, hunt driftwood, and hold fire-side sing songs.

In 1969, the family moved to Brooks and Barb began teaching at the Brooks Junior High School. Don passed away in 1974. By 1977, all the kids had graduated high school and moved away from home. Barb continued to enjoy curling and golfing, became an Alberta Teachers’ Association representative, and served one term on Town Council. Barb retired from teaching in 1989 and travelled extensively.

Barb moved to Edmonton in 2006 and enjoyed watching her granddaughter Anne grow up into a fine, young woman. Another move to High River in 2017 brought her closer to daughter Lona and long-time friend, Judy Evans (Scheuerman).

No matter where she lived, Barb was always surrounded by family and friends. She enjoyed family and community events. She made the yearly trek to the family cabin compound up until 2024, at the age of 90.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the United Nations Refugee Agency or a charity of your choice.

A Celebration of Barb's life will be held on Saturday, May 24th at 2:00 p.m. at the Highwood Golf & Country Club in High River. For those that are unable to attend, the service will be livestreamed at www.lylereeves.com .

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (403.652.4242)

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

MAY **24**. 2:00 PM (MT)

Highwood Golf & Country Club
400 7th Street NW
High River, AB (CA)
<http://www.highwoodgolf.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Lyle Reeves Funerals created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Barbara Joan Tarney



Lyle Reeves Funerals - May 23, 2025 at 12:04 PM



“ I am so very sorry and sad to hear of Barb's passing. I have such great memories of driving from Calgary to see her in Brooks. Sitting in the kitchen listening to the adults talk, checking out the mink that sat in her room, the amazing toy box, spinning wheel in the basement and most of all her laughter, warmth and storytelling. She was the first person I ever saw hop onto her kitchen counter and casually have a smoke. She never failed to tell me positive stories about my dad, never. For that I am eternally grateful. Love to all of the Tarney's. Lisa Lintott (van Wijk). If this doesn't make it to you because time has passed, sorry, but maybe someone will read this and smile.

Lisa Lintott - June 16, 2025 at 11:39 PM



“ I'm sorry I wasn't able to attend Barb's Celebration of Life. I always enjoyed seeing her at church and at my work before I retired. Such a lovely elegant lady.



Dana - May 26, 2025 at 12:39 AM

GB

“ Doug, Dan and Lona:

Pascale and I send our deepest sympathies to you 3 as well as to Anne. (Forgive me if there's no 'e' at the end of 'Ann.' I don't remember.)

We enjoyed the beautiful ceremony you just hosted for your mother. I certainly have a lot of wonderful memories of your mom, and I truly wish I could have seen her one last time.

But what I cherish the most are the times I spent with you three--my favorite cousins!--along with your mom at the cabin. Although I was younger than you three and CERTAINLY not as COOL, you always made me feel special, welcome in your company, and important. You ALWAYS took time to show an interest in my life, to explain interesting things to me, and to spend real time with me.

Now that I look back and think about our times together, I realize how you three all have the same incredible ability to make people around you feel good about themselves--just like your mother could.

Thanks again for all the beautiful times we spent together. Pascale and I look forward to seeing you in July.

Love from Grant and Pascale

Grant Baergen - May 24, 2025 at 05:14 PM

JA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joanne Alford - May 24, 2025 at 05:09 PM

JA

The picnic table that just needed to be painted. Barb was so sure it wouldn't be there after the first year because it looked so good. But it was. And so was I. I was there to witness her delight while she was there or whenever i pulled up to the cabin. Thank you for being there & sharing your delight.

Joanne Alford - May 24, 2025 at 05:19 PM

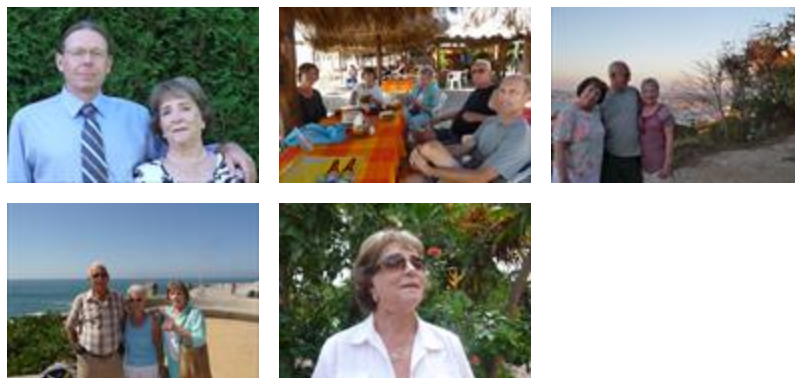
MG

“ A classy lady always and a great teacher. My parents, George and Mona Timko always spoke highly of Mrs. Tarney. She was a gentle, but commanding instructor, respected by all students.

Michelle (Timko) Gietz - May 24, 2025 at 01:11 PM

CG

“ 5 files added to the album Family Photos



Craig Green - May 24, 2025 at 12:40 PM

VD

“ *There’s no one in the world like Aunty Barb. She was one special lady. She will be forever in our hearts and memory.*

Vicki Dodd - May 24, 2025 at 01:37 AM

EM

“ *Barb was a wonderful, kind, and fun woman who I had the pleasure of spending extended time with as I grew up alongside Anne, Doug, Mary, and family. May she rest in peace and my thoughts go out to Doug, Anne, Mary, and Barb’s family.*

Emmitt - May 23, 2025 at 02:47 PM

BP

“ *Brad and I always enjoyed spending time with Barb. She was always so intelligent and witty! One time visiting her at the Manor, we brought some red wine to share. The Manor wasn't cool with that so she insisted we help bring chairs and glasses out and we sat in the parking lot and visited! We will miss you, Mrs Tarney. Condolences to all the family who will miss you dearly as well. ❤️ Love: Brad and Leona Petrick*



Brad and Leona Petrick - May 21, 2025 at 10:37 PM

MP

“ *Very sad to hear of Mrs. Tarney's passing. I have great memories of her and her late husband Don as a student and just hanging out with Doug in the family home. My thoughts are with Doug and his siblings at this time.*

Mike Pelchat, Quesnel, BC

Michael Pelchat - May 08, 2025 at 12:12 PM

CL

“ A wonderful life lived by a wonderful woman. Deepest sympathies to the family.

Cheryl Langevin - May 05, 2025 at 12:00 PM

BM

“ Barbara McInerney lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara Joan Tarney



Barbara McInerney - April 30, 2025 at 09:08 AM

JV

“ Mrs. Tarney I always looked up to you as a teacher and later as a friend.
It was a pleasure learning from you . You were also a great neighbour.
I love you as home room teacher in the 70s.



Enjoy your final adventure I'll see you again in the Junior High in the sky.

I sure hope we get air conditioning next time.

Gary and me were just talking about you if even 2 weeks ago.

Thank you for lessons learned.

May you. ☐ RIP 🕊️ Mrs. 🕯️ Tarney ☐

Deepest Condolences to all family and friends.

Janice Vessey



Janice Vessey - April 30, 2025 at 02:36 AM

FF

Loved learning from you Mrs. Tarney ,Ancient & Medieval History at Duchess. Miss those days.

Condolences to Doug,Dan&Lona. Our family has treasured memories of your mom & Dad both as a principal & teachers at Duchess. Both for their kindness& compassion. Thanks for sharing your mom & dad with us.

This brings to mind a saying I heard: Those we love are never gone they remsin with us forever through our wonderful memories. May you be comforted by this thought. God bless you all until we meet again.Fukuda Family

Fukuda Family - May 09, 2025 at 03:41 AM

CG

“ *Mrs. Tarney was my home room teacher in Grade 7 at BJHS. Her compassion for her students made a lasting impression on my young teenage mind. Mrs. Tarney also was the keynote speaker at our 1975 graduation from BCHS because she was so loved by the students she had taught over the years. We were indeed privileged to have such a fine lady help form our young, impressionable minds. I'm so glad that she lived such a long and fulfilling life. May she rest in peace. My condolences to the Tarney family. Cathy Crerar Garossino*

Cathy Garossino - April 28, 2025 at 11:26 PM

GO

“ *Reset in peace Mrs. Tarney, you were my best mentor in J.H. in Brooks, I enjoyed your classes always. You were always kind, I have never forgotten that message, Be kind to others and teach where you can. I was blessed to meet up with Doug and Dan while posted in the Edmonton area, my heart breaks for you and your sister. God bless. G Oliver*

Gerry Oliver - April 28, 2025 at 05:11 PM

ME

“ We met Barb in 1977 when we moved to Brooks and joined curling on her team. She was teaching at the Junior High School when our 2 children attended there. I reconnected with Barb in High River and we met at Tim Hortons once a month. Our visits continued when she moved into Seasons. My dear friend Lil wanted to learn more about Seasons so we visited Barb, they became next door neighbours unfortunately for a very short time. You will be dearly missed my friend ❤️ MJ Enevold

MJ ENEVOLD - April 27, 2025 at 10:01 PM

SM

“ Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. Thank you so much for being a good friend and like a real grandma to me. Thank you for always hugging me everytime you see me in Seasons 😊 You may rest in Peace 🙏 We love you and we will missed you ☐



Shiela Mae - April 27, 2025 at 06:37 PM

SM

“ Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure. Thank you so much for being a good friend and like a real grandma to me. Thank you for always hugging me everytime you see me in Seasons 😊 You may rest in Peace 🙏 We love you and we will missed you ☐

Shiela Mae - April 27, 2025 at 06:35 PM

CM

“ I am blessed to know this soul!! We had so much fun at the Manor!! She was fabulous, smart and so invested in everyone she met. As a teacher she remained an avid and life long learner. She will be so very missed

Chrissy Mosby - April 25, 2025 at 10:52 PM

LM

“ I have many memories of you during our time at the Manor! Rest easy my friend!



Lee-Anne Murakami - April 24, 2025 at 11:55 PM

JO

“ You were such an amazing lady, and an awesome teacher when you taught me in Brooks. You will be truly missed. RIP Barb



Justine Ott - April 24, 2025 at 03:49 PM

JR

“ I feel so privileged to have known Barb. I loved her personality, her humour and the laughter. Lona, I know you will miss your mom so much but your amazing memories together will never be taken away.

Jane Russell - April 24, 2025 at 03:08 PM

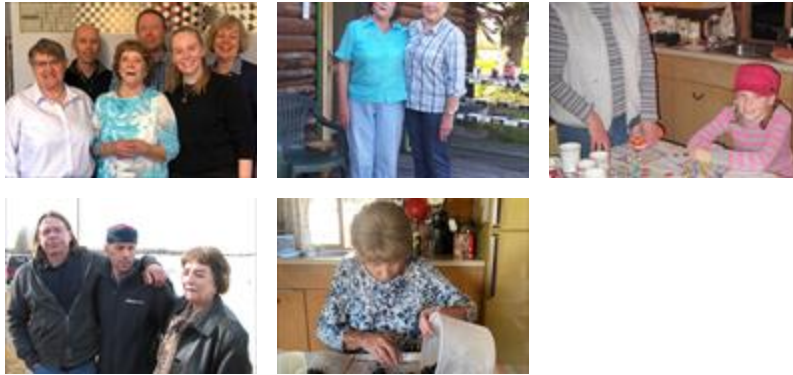
SS

“ Rest in Peace Barb 🌸
You are such a lovely sweet lady and I'm glad to have known you ☐

susan sibley - April 24, 2025 at 02:27 PM

CW

“ 7 files added to the album Family Photos



Caroline Wagenaar - April 24, 2025 at 02:24 PM