



## Mrs. Irene "Edna" McLean

March 29, 1925 - May 24, 2013

Mrs. Irene "Edna" McLean passed away peacefully on May 24, 2013 at the High River Hospital in High River, Alberta at the age of 88 years. Only three days earlier her husband Rev. Elwood G. McLean passed away peacefully on May 21, 2013 at the Oilfields Hospital in Black Diamond, Alberta at the age of 83 years. Elwood & Edna resided in Okotoks, Alberta formerly being from Frenchman Butte, Saskatchewan. They are survived by their sons Lyle (Marla) McLean of Okotoks, AB; Robert (Yvonne) McLean of Pinawa, MB; and Wray (Sheryl) McLean of Cleveland, OK as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They are also survived by Edna's sisters Tina (Victor) Rose of Frenchman Butte, SK; Mary Howard, Frenchman Butte, SK; Elwood's brothers Bud (Yvonne) McLean of Rimbey, AB; and Les (Joy) McLean of North Delta, BC. They were predeceased by their daughter Grace Jacobsen; son-in-law Dennis Jacobsen; Edna's parents Charles and Josephine Parenteau; Elwood's parents Hazlet & Grace Violet McLean; Edna's 10 brothers, Hilaire, Leon, Emile, Henry, Wilfred, Victor, Lloyd, Lawrence, Thomas and Philip; Elwood's sister Hazel Grace Thompson; Elwood's brothers Gordon, Glen, Lorne and Donald.

Elwood was an original Circuit Riding Preacher and they were both Missionaries to the First Nations People of Onion Lake, Saskatchewan as well as being Pastors of Frenchman Butte Church and surrounding communities from 1948 – 2000. They both passed away in Southern Alberta and went

home to be with the Lord together as they had always desired it to be.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stockade Building, 5521 - 49th Avenue, Lloydminster, SK .

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY **31**. 1:30 PM (MT)

High River Full Gospel Tabernacle  
1802 9 Avenue SE  
High River, AB T1V 2A6 (CA)  
(403) 652-2633  
info@hrfgc.org  
<http://www.hrfgc.org/>

## Service

JUN **15**. 1:00 PM (MT)

Stockade Building  
5521 - 49th Ave  
Lloydminster, SK S9V 0Y7 (CA)

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ To Lyle, Wray, Robbie, Mary, Tina and all your families and friends innumerable

*I extend my deepest and heartfelt sympathy on the passing of Elwood and Edna.*

*What an example they left to follow, such a rich legacy. They always talked so lovingly of all of you.*

*I got to know Elwood in the spring of 1949 when I was 12 years old. Just out of Bible School he came to our little country school at Harlan, Sask. once a week to hold "religious instruction" classes. Later that year he took up the posting of Pastor of the Church Mission at Frenchman Butte, Sask. He had no means of transportation, so my father had a plan, offering him a horse to use if he could break it to ride. Now this horse who was given the name "Ginger" was WILD. After getting him into the corral and getting him calmed down they finally got a saddle on him and Elwood mounted the steed. Well he snorted and heaved and reared up. With the rider still in control they left our yard in a cloud of dust, and full speed ahead. When he found that he couldn't throw Elwood off, he calmed down somewhat and the rest of the journey was a little more at ease. Ginger was used to carry the "circuit ridin" preacher for many of hundreds of miles. Elwood would come to my folk's home each Thursday afternoon, stay the night and then go to the school Friday afternoon. On one particular trip to our place a severe blizzard came up and Elwood got lost in the storm. After considerable desperation and much prayer he let the horse go and they arrived at our place at about 1 a.m. in the morning. What a relief it was to my parents, because they knew that Elwood was somewhere in that blizzard. It was a joy and a privilege for me to grow up under Elwood's ministry. The rich teaching from the Word. He had a unique way of telling "a story" that made it live, as tough you were right there in the action. Then there were the wonderful meals that Edna would serve up. Times of feast along with rich fellowship.*

*In the spring of 1957 Elwood and Edna along with two small children ( Gracie and Lyle) and myself, all packed in the cab of that*

*"Famous" old 1951 International truck made the trip to F.G.B.I. convention. That event played a key role in the course of my future. Out of that I spent three wonderful years at the Bible School, and found my future wife, Jean, while working on a farm there. Elwood baptized me in the lake near home, and dedicated my daughter, Brenda. To her as a child he was always "Uncle Elwood". Now two warriors have passed the torch on to us soldiers that are still on the gospel trail. Well done good and faithful servants.*

*Don Giles*

---

**Marlowe Matson** - June 03, 2013 at 09:54 PM

PV

“ *Paige Valgardson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Irene "Edna" McLean*



---

**Paige Valgardson** - May 29, 2013 at 12:16 AM

RG

“ To all the McLean families,  
My sympathies are with you at this time.  
My memories and feelings of being loved and accepted by Edna are many. Her home at Frenchman Butte along the North bank of the North Saskatchewan River felt like the safest place on earth. There was always an invitation to stay for toast and tea, home made soup, and on many an occasion after church we were invited to stay for roast moose or deer stew etc. There was usually food involved with an invitation in Edna's kitchen. She had an incredibly generous heart. I often thought as I was growing up 'I'd like to have a home some day that is as open to people as what Edna's home is.'  
Edna was the instigator of many a trip up north to pick blue berries and cranberries. We, the Garratt's were often invited along! those were amazing experiences. Along with getting lots of blueberries there were the camp fires afterwards at Peck lake or Fishing Lake, Wothington, or Ministikwan. Tea or coffee boiled in a can and on special occasions even Bannock. Edna loved going to a lake after picking berries because there was often a nice breeze coming off the lake and she could let the wind blow the leaves out of her berries as she poured them from one pail into another. I learned lots of neat things from Edna.  
May her soul rest in peace.

---

Reg Garratt - May 28, 2013 at 07:38 AM

OT

“ Dear Lyle, Wray, Rob, Harley, Hollis and your families,  
We are deeply saddened for all of you ,  
Dear little Edna was such a strong soul mate for your father.  
Their ministry was definitely a shared adventure.  
The open door policy at your home in Frenchman Butte , meant that  
we could arrive for breakfast or dinner any time and if we arrived on  
our birthday there was sure to be a beautiful cake waiting for us.  
Thank you Edna.  
I can remember having sewing help with many last minute projects  
like grad and wedding day.  
Do you remember all of that gardening and canning? Even picking  
berries was fun because there was always the promise of a camp  
fire before heading home. Thank you Edna .  
Your family was weaved right into the fabric of our life in Frenchman  
Butte.  
A big huge THANK YOU .

---

Olive Tenham - May 26, 2013 at 09:55 PM