



## Mrs. Lena Lana Skeet

November 5, 1932 - August 8, 2024

Lena Lana Skeet (nee Rock) passed away peacefully at the Seasons Retirement Home in High River on August 8, 2024, at the age of 91 years.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Gordon Albert Skeet and her Son Russell Skeet (Lydia), of High River, Alberta. Her sister Violet David, and brothers Walter Rock and John (Barbara) Yarovich all of Calgary, along with several nieces and nephews.

Lena was born in Calgary on November 5, 1932, to William and Dominica (Doris) Yarovich (nee Rock), Who predeceased her in 1963 and 1984 respectively.

She spent her early years in Calgary living in and around the Bridgeland area before locating to the Natal/Michelle area of the Crowsnest Pass in British Columbia with her mother and stepfather, John Yarovich during her teenage years.

Once in her 20's she returned to Calgary enrolling in secretarial school before embarking on her career for the Parks and Recreation department with the City of Calgary in 1953.

It was there working in Calgary City Hall, Lena met the man who would

become her husband, Gordon Skeet, who had only just started his 37-year career with the City of Calgary a few months earlier.

The pair worked side by side before they started dating, fell in love and were married on June 20, 1959, celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary just a few weeks before Lena's passing.

Once married they first moved into their first home in the then brand-new southeast community of Fairview.

In 1967, they adopted a 13-month-old boy, naming him Russell Gordon Skeet. From there the family moved to Canyon Meadows in 1969 where they remained until 1991, before Lena and Gordon retired to High River to pursue their passion for golf and small-town living. Lena was an excellent golfer, winning ladies titles at Maple Ridge Golf Course in the 1980's and the Senior Ladies Club Championship at the Highwood Golf and Country Club in the 1990's. She also served on the board of Directors for the Highwood Golf and Country Club.

She was also a prolific 10-pin bowler, winning many titles and trophies in her over 60 years in the sport, along with spending many terms on the executive of the Southern Alberta 10-Pin Bowling Association.

Lena enjoyed the company of her friends and family, hosting parties and events at her home, in her later years, games of mahjong, where the ladies would marvel at the splendor of her home and the view of the mountains from her living room window.

Lena had a talent for giving valuable advice, hard earned, by years of experience both good and bad, but she also wasn't shy to tell you what she really thought, both good and bad.

Dementia in her later years led to her being slowly stolen away from her family. But she still was able to make a great impression on the staff at

Seasons, High River, with her smile and personality.

Words cannot express our gratitude for their service, kindness and caring of Lena in her final years.

No words written here can adequately sum up Lena's life, which was rich and full and filled with love, joy, pain and heartache. She lived life on her terms and will be missed on a daily basis by those who loved her, while the world will be just a "little bit less" without her presence.

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

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ *Cathy Couey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lena Lana Skeet*



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**Cathy Couey** - August 21, 2024 at 11:32 AM

FR

“ *R.I.P. Aunty Lena  
I have very fond memories of you and the times we shared. My  
Condolences to Uncle Gordon and Russell.  
Love ❤️ Frankie*

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**Frankie** - August 15, 2024 at 12:35 AM

WR

“ *Although our relationship was at considerable distance over the years, it remained meaningful and loving and thoughtful, just as family relationships should be. I have distinct memories of Auntie Lena: her strength and laugh and unshakable nature. As described in the memorial, I cannot imagine Auntie Lena with a deteriorating capacity—I cannot imagine how cousin Russel and Uncle Gordon navigated through the torture that comes with such unrelenting change, in particular with someone as loved as Auntie Lena is. Both Brenda and myself share in this unjust loss—our hearts are with cousin Russel and Uncle Gordon during this difficult time. I personally have come to believe that my memories of Auntie Lena are now a blessing.*

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**William Donald Rock** - August 14, 2024 at 07:01 PM

WL

“ Just found out about the passing of Aunty Lena, sending my condolences to Uncle Gordon and Russell. As it sometimes goes family's sometimes do not stay in touch, but the one memory that I do have and do think about often is, when Aunty Lena and Uncle Gordon would pick my two sisters and I up in their station wagon and we would head out to Coleman to spend the weekends and Grandma's house, sharing in laughter ,BBQ's, and the garden.

*Her laughter is what I will always here when I think about her.*

*Wendy Rock*

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**wendy leeson** - August 14, 2024 at 03:21 PM

JA

“ My condolences to the family.i have fond memories of Lena . ... always had a funny story and kind words.

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**Joanne Abel** - August 11, 2024 at 09:59 AM

CB

“ Loved golfing with Lena @ Highwood. Always cheerful with a great sense of humor. We did have fun times!!



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**Carol Ball** - August 10, 2024 at 10:50 AM

KK

*So sad to hear of Lena's passing, she and I bowled together in Calgary in the 1960's, then reunited in High River were we bowled and played golf . Rest in peace .*

*Kay Kidd*

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**Kay Kid** - August 20, 2024 at 09:38 PM

FS

*Dear Gordon and Russell. My name is Fran Schulze and I send heartfelt sympathy to both Gordon and Russell, although I only knew Russell from his Father's delightful stories of when he was with them as a baby. Lena was a very special person in my life - perhaps unknown to many, 'my hero'!! After she married Gordon, she had to resign her position at the Parks and Recreation Department (that is the way that it was in those days!!), and I was fortunate enough to get that position and be trained by her. I was so scared and she was so helpful. Lena was amazing, patient, funny and delightful!! (I loved her dearly). I ended up working for the Parks and Recreation Department for over ten years. Gordon and Lena were a major part of that memory. Life takes us on many journeys but I always wanted to know about the 'Skeets' and am now so sorry to hear of Lena's passing. Lena was an amazing person and I was so fortunate to have been mentored by her for that short time. It enriched my life - as did my later work association with Gordon. I am so grateful to have known you both and sad now for your huge loss to the family and to Gordon and Russell.*

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**Fran Schulze** - September 03, 2024 at 02:39 AM