



Mrs. Leona Sheehan

November 30, 2013

SHEEHAN, Leona (nee Sargent) passed away peacefully in her 95th year on Nov 30th 2013. Leona was predeceased by her parents Matthew and Mary Elizabeth Sargent (nee McCann), husband Walter Sheehan, her brother Jack Sargent (Rena), and sister Audrey Sargent (Don). She was a dedicated mother to Mary Ellen and Joe Sheehan, and grandmother to Hailey DiCaita, as well as a loving sister to Mary Baril (Bernard) and Jim Sargent. An aunt and great-aunt to many nieces and nephews, and second mother to many family friends, she will be greatly missed.

Born in Arnprior in the heart of the Ottawa Valley, of fifth generation Irish/Scottish heritage, she lived all her life in Northern Ontario. With her husband Walter, who she married at the age of 20 and enjoyed life with until his death in 1987, she moved frequently to support his career with the CPR. This resulted in the development of the gypsy life she maintained over the years; she was not one to be emotionally attached to just a dwelling. Her passion was teaching. She taught in Quebec and Ontario, focusing on primary and senior elementary grades, then went on to pioneer the North Bay Separate School Board's Family Life and Sex Education Program in the early 70's. An athlete in her early years, she enjoyed golfing, skiing and the family cottage on Lake Kipawa. She made many friends everywhere she lived, and loved to entertain friends and family, often for wild bridge games. Despite latter year challenges with hearing and sight loss, she maintained her enthusiasm and positive attitude, her interest in people's lives, her eagerness

to argue about politics and religion, and her dry wit to the end. Many thanks to the staff at the Empire Living Centre in North Bay and The Wenleigh Long Term Care Residence in Mississauga who she considered her friends. A celebration of her life will be held in the spring in North Bay. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation