

Obituary, Ottawa Citizen January 9, 2011

WALMSLEY, Norma E., O.C. RCAF (Women's Division) In her 90th year, peacefully in the Wakefield Hospital. Survived by her sister Dorothy of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, her partner of 54 years Joan Garnett, and by 20 nieces and nephews and their children who have been the pride and joy of her life including locally David Ireland (Mary) of Orleans and their sons and daughter, Rob Ireland (Liette) Matt, Sean and Cole; Kelly Shostal (David) Emily and Elizabeth; and Kevin Ireland (Stephanie) and Kevin David. Predeceased by one brother, three sisters and one niece. Her grandfather's example imbued her with the drive to serve: Norma was the 74th woman to join the RCAF Women's Division in 1941 where she became Senior Officer in Charge of Women's Division Supplies for Canada and Overseas. Following graduation from McGill she was Professor of Political Science at Brandon College, Manitoba (1955-67). In Ottawa and Wakefield since then, she devoted her life to causes she believed in: published studies, including Canadian Universities and International Development (AUCC and CIDA); non-governmental organizations dedicated to international understanding (too numerous to name but listed in CANADIAN WHO'S WHO), notably Founder of MATCH International Centre; and a tireless leader in the successful reconstruction of the Wakefield Covered Bridge. Officer of the Order of Canada, LLD Brandon University and Carleton University, recipient of many other honours including the Governor General's Persons Award, Lewis Perinbam Award in International Development, Queen Elizabeth Silver and Gold Jubilee Medals; honorary life member of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Ottawa-Gatineau Society for International Development, Gatineau Valley Historical Society and the Larrimac Golf Club. Friends are invited to visit at the McGarry Memorial Chapel, 139 Valley Rd, Wakefield on Monday, January 10, 2011, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Funeral service will be held at the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd, 693 Riverside Rd, Wakefield on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 2 p.m. Cremation to follow. She loved flowers, especially her precious purple streptocarpus, the bouquets she has received on special occasions over the years and the wild flowers in the moss on her famous rock steps at home. Now, however, should you wish to make a lasting remembrance, donations to the Wakefield Hospital Foundation of which she was a Board Member, the hospital and CLSC from which she has received so much help (Fondation de Sante des collines, 101 Burnside Rd, Wakefield, QC J0X 3G0) or the Larrimac Golf Course (1148 Route 105, Chelsea, QC J9B 1P4) would be very much appreciated. Her life will be celebrated.