

Shona Wards



From the Edmonton Journal

It is with great sadness that the family of Shona Barbara Wards announces her sudden passing from an abdominal aortic aneurysm on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Shona is happy to be reunited with her predeceased husband, Jack Wards. She will be greatly missed by her daughters, Jennifer (Bill) Shalapay, Allyson (Dwayne) Mandrusiak, Linda Cochran; grandchildren, Matt (Kelly) Mandrusiak, Mackenzie (Stephanie) Mandrusiak, Shayna Shalapay (Adam Knight), Jonathan (Heather) Shalapay; great grandchildren Ella, Lennon, and Lochlan Mandrusiak, Nate Shalapay; survived by her sister, Camille (Ed) Murray and Pat Cameron, numerous family and friends including life-long friend Effie Andriashek. Shona was a dedicated and tireless worker for the Edmonton Eskimos (38 years) and the Eskimo Alumni; the Rebels (you know who you are); and too many community organizations to name. Shona was a good friend and inspiration to hundreds. Loved by all, she will be greatly missed.

Memorial donations may be made to the Parkinson's Association of Alberta, 11209 86 St NW, Edmonton, AB T5B 3H7, Kids Kottage Foundation, 13308 101 St NW Edmonton, AB T5E 4G3 or Diabetes Research Institute Foundation Canada (DRIFCan), PO Box 833 Edmonton Main Edmonton, AB T5J 2L4 are greatly appreciated. To send condolences, please visit www.fostermcgarvey.com



Photo by David Hongisto, 2010

In 2005, Shona Wards and Al Dodds planted a Bur Oak tree on the Alberta legislative grounds as a special educational project for the Edmonton Branch of the UELAC. In 2007, a small plaque was added in recognition of a visit by Queen Elizabeth II to commemorate Alberta's 100th birthday. A larger plaque and base were added by Shona in 2010. More details on the plaque are under monuments in the main UELAC website [Edmonton Loyalist Plaque – UELAC](#)

The plaque reads:

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

This bur oak tree commemorates the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in celebration of Alberta's Centennial 1905-2005.

Placed by the descendants of the United Empire Loyalists who are members of the Edmonton and Calgary Branches. The roots of this tree symbolize the ancestral roots of Loyalists who fled the Thirteen American Colonies during the American Revolution (1775-1783) and remained faithful to the British Crown. Oak leaves have long been held as a symbol of loyalty to the Monarchy since the time of Charles II. Just as the branches of this tree grow and spread, similarly many Albertans are descendants of the original Loyalists.

For the UELAC, Ivy Trumpour recalls that Shona contributed much. She was an Edmonton Branch president and Membership Director. She organized and participated in formal Branch dinners, the School Visitation Program, parades, annual Conferences, and promoted the UELAC at every opportunity.

Shona joined the Calgary Branch too. She attended meetings regularly and assisted where possible.

Shona's Loyalist ancestor was Daniel Keith, who settled in New Brunswick. The certificate was obtained in 2001.