



Eda B. Kelsea

April 15, 1919 - September 1, 2011

GREENBRIER, TENN.-- Mrs. Eda B. Kelsea, 92, of Greenbrier, Tenn., and formerly of Queensbury, NY, and Colebrook, NH, passed away at her daughter, Christine's, home in Tennessee on Thursday, September 1, 2011.

She was born a twin on April 15, 1919, in Stewartstown, NH. She was the daughter of Stella (Brainard) Knights and John Knights of Colebrook, NH. She had three siblings who all pre-deceased her, Ida (her twin), Geneva Mulliken, and Willard Knights. Eda attended grade school at Cedar Brook in Stewartstown and high school at Colebrook Academy in Colebrook.

She was married to Clark Jeffers from 1939-1943, and they had two children, Shirla Furgerson, and Cecil who died in 1941. She married Wesley Kelsea in March, 1948. They had three children, Evelyn Kelsea of Queensbury, NY, Christine Lovell of Greenbrier, Tenn., and Edward who died in 1951. They lived and worked on the James Kelsea family farm in Columbia from 1948-58. Eda worked along with the men to keep the rare round barn and animals in the best possible condition. Due to Wesley's declining health, they moved to Bloomfield, Vt., in 1958, and then purchased the Spaulding House in Colebrook. Later in life, they purchased a trailer and moved up the street to Boudle's Trailer Park where she continued to live for 3 years after Wesley's death in 1993. In 1996, Eda decided to join her daughter, Evelyn, at her home in NY. Because of declining health, she moved to Christine's home in

Tennessee in Jan., 2011.

Eda was an amazing gardener and a housekeeper who kept the cleanest house anywhere she ever lived. She worked at Howard's Restaurant in Colebrook for 45 years, as did her mother. She cultivated a large garden behind Pearl Gray's home, and shared the results with many families in Colebrook for many years. She raised and sold the most beautiful gladiolas in the North Country. The local newspaper published an interview and took pictures of her garden. She had a raspberry patch and made jam while Wesley used the berries to make pies. He did the cooking and baking and Eda provided the fresh vegetables and berries, not only from her patch, but from the most sacred, secret places in northern New Hampshire during blueberry and raspberry season. Many benefited from Wesley's and Eda's generosity, both on the farm and while they lived in Colebrook. Eda also provided wonderful craft projects every year for friends and family for Christmas and birthdays. She was a seamstress and made clothes for the grandchildren when they were small. She had a natural talent for painting and drawing pictures, both of which she enjoyed and were used to decorate her children's homes. With all this, she still took care of Wesley who was very ill most of their married life. She sat with him constantly during his many hospitalizations.

After Wesley's death, she visited her daughters in Florida. She enjoyed the beaches, shopping, and eating out. She went to Sea World and Disney World where she got to become a child again. She thoroughly enjoyed those trips, as she got to watch her five grandchildren (Kathy, Darcy, and Krista, Amy, and James) grow into adults. Eda is also survived by 5 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

Memorial calling hours will be held on Friday, September 23, 2011, from 9-11 a.m. at the Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook, NH, to be

followed immediately by a graveside committal service at 11 a.m. at the Colebrook Village Cemetery. The Rev. Rick Boyden will officiate.

Expressions of sympathy in Mrs. Kelsea's memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 North Michigan Avenue, Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to www.jenkinsnewman.com.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home, Colebrook, NH.

Tribute Wall



“ *Shirla, Evelyn and Christine, I was saddened to hear about your mother's passing. I remember all the good times we had growing up and going to school together. Your mother was very kind and such a hard worker as were all the farmers and their wives back then. I know you will miss her but she is now at peace.##imported-begin##Donna Gould Keazer##imported-end##*

September 22, 2011 at 12:38 PM



“ *I have so many wonderful memories of your Mom and growing up with you girls. I wish everyone could experience that. You will always miss your mom, but she will always be with you. Take comfort in all the wonderful memories you have of her. I wish you well.*
Linda Parker MacKinnon##imported-begin##Linda Parker Mackinnon##imported-end##

September 10, 2011 at 08:19 PM



“ *Dear Christine, Bob, Amy and James: Just wanted you to know that I am thinking of you and wishing I could be there to comfort the family. I did not know your Mother that well but do know from all the stories, that you Christine, favor her such as her clean house, hard working, and her dedication to her home and her family. Our family is honored to have you as our dear friends. May God Bless!!!##imported-begin##Cathy and Chris Laurer##imported-end##*

September 09, 2011 at 03:07 PM



“ Shirla, I just read your mothers' obituary in the local paper and her marriage to my father. Even though not knowing her or you I wish to extend my sympathy to you and your family.##imported-begin##Roseann Jeffers Walling##imported-end##

September 08, 2011 at 06:17 PM



“ To Eda's Family
So sorry to hear fo Eda's passing,she has to be one of the last "farm women" of columbia.
I have very fond memories of those years and your Mom. She sure was a hard worker and very kind women. I'm sure she will be missed.
Linda Keach Nolet##imported-begin##linda keach nolet##imported-end##

September 05, 2011 at 01:55 PM



“ Very sorry for the loss of your Mother. relieved she is now at peace.##imported-begin##Heather Walker ##imported-end##

September 05, 2011 at 12:44 PM



“ Evelyn, Christine and Shirla-I'm so sorry to read of your Mom's passing. She was one of those people I felt would "always be here". I have the "mug rug" she gave me still on my desk, so I think of her every day and will continue to do so. She gave this to me before she moved to NY. My sincere sympathy to you and your families.##imported-begin##Rosemary Mulliken##imported-end##

September 04, 2011 at 09:03 PM



“ Eda was a wonderful lady who lived a very full life and touched the hearts of many. She will be missed.##imported-begin##Barbara and Monty Calvert##imported-end##

September 04, 2011 at 04:13 PM



“ Chris - Thinking of you and your family now. Hope you & yours can find some rest and peace now that your mother has passed into peace herself. Take comfort in knowing that you all went above and beyond to care for her the way she wished and hopefully you can remember the good times rather than the long and weary ones.##imported-begin##Barbara Sadler##imported-end##

September 02, 2011 at 03:43 PM



“ Chris, my deepest sympathies to you and your family. You were so dedicated to your mother's care and keeping her comfortable. May God's blessings pour over you and may you feel His presence and comfort in the days ahead.
Love,
Karen Carter##imported-begin##Karen Carter##imported-end##

September 02, 2011 at 02:35 PM



“ i love u grammy. i will miss you. i will never forget our last moment together. see you later. :)##imported-begin##amy lovell-erickson##imported-end##

September 02, 2011 at 12:55 PM



“ I would like to send my deepest condolences for Shirla and her family. My prayers are with you during this difficult time. I wish you all the best as you heal and I hope you know that your mom is in a better place.

Love and Best Wishes Always,

Denise, Ryan and Peyton Reeves

TNC employee##imported-begin##Denise Reeves##imported-end##

September 02, 2011 at 11:06 AM



“ Evelyn, Christine, and Shirla our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. I remember your mom with all her talents, and of course as a great waitress at Howard's restuarant. She and Wesley were great cooks and I was so fortunate to be able to have many of their treats...

Love, Robert and Cindy##imported-begin##Cindy & Robert Bissonnette##imported-end##

September 02, 2011 at 11:03 AM