

BIOGRAPHY

BLANDFORD, GRETA REYNOLDS (1906 - 1995):



Greta married **Brian Patrick Nelson Turnbull** in St. Matthew's Church basement (the building had not been built yet) on the 24th of April 1937. One year later **Brian Peter** was born and five years after that **Lynn Patricia** was born. Many years later seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren were born. The most important thing in her life was her family from her parents down to her great grandchildren everyone had a special place in her heart. Little Greta was born at home, she was so small at birth that the doctor told her mother that she would not survive.

This tiny soul of approximately two pounds began to suck her fist in her tiny cradle and her mother knew in her heart that if she could suckle on her breast that she would certainly survive. Survive she did and what a wonderful family life she had.

Greta studied at Halifax Ladies College and was graduated from the Royal Victoria Hospital as a dietitian (she was always a wonderful cook). Her dad was a barrister and solicitor and the family prospered. In 1929, just when he was at the peak of his political career as well as being the High Sheriff of Newfoundland, he died of a heart attack. The family was forced to leave their home & country and move to Montreal in Canada where the job prospects for the "men" of the family were much better. It was in Montreal that she met Pat whom she adored until the day she died.

Children were special to her and she loved her son, **Brian** and her daughter, **Lynn** who have been such a blessing in her life and who made her smile when they came to visit.

Weddings in the family delighted and inspired her especially when her darling Lynn, a young girl of nineteen married Brian (a unique name in this family) on June 23, 1963. Brian was a little slower in choosing his bride but at 27 he married **Gail** (and **Tony**) on April 16, 1966, In St. Matthew's Church.



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The next greatest delight in her life was her grandchildren, **Wendy, Carolyn, Tony, Jimmy, Wayne, Peter** and **Monica**. A great deal of love attention and care was given to them all especially in their early years.

Her great grandchildren, **Joshua, Andrea, William** and **James** were also loved by her in their own special ways.

To her brothers and sisters, she was the oldest and probably the tiniest of the children. She loved the days of family parties and celebrations and always talked of the fun and how special it all was to her. Even on her last day when we gathered at St. Andrews to celebrate her birthday she delighted in her special chocolates and the kiss Uncle **Dave** bestowed on her. She could still sparkle in her own special way.



Since her youth in Montreal, her church held great significance in her life, thus the holding of her memorial service in St. Matthew's Church was a fitting end for this loving parent.

Greta died suddenly on her 89 birthday following several strokes. She had been suffering for several years from Alzheimer's. She had visits the previous day by her daughter and son as well as her sister **Irma** and her husband **Dave**. Recognition of family members at that time was at best for brief periods of clarity. She was living in the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Home at 7486 St. Jacques St. West, Montreal. She was cremated on March 23, 1995 for burial in Montreal Memorial Park 3955 Cote de Liesse Rd with her husband **Pat** who predeceased her by 24 years.

Gail Turnbull

