

Remembering: Irma Blandford (1923 - 2006)

The youngest of the seven Blandford children who came to Montreal with the family following the death of her father and the onset of the great depression.

It was in Montreal where she met David who had journeyed there with his parents in 1924.

She was first employed by Bell Telephone at age 16, and just loved the work and people. Her marriage to Dave in 1947 and their two children are the highlights of her life.

They spent their 25th anniversary in Europe, the first time there for Irma. She is by her own admission famous for her Scottish Shortbread.

Newfoundland calls, with Irma taking Dave back to the place of her birth on her birthday, 68 years later in 1998.

Memories of Auntie Irma

I have many memories of Auntie Irma. One year, Uncle Dave (my very favourite uncle) and Auntie Irma visited us at our house in Almonte, Ontario...and I learned a lesson about phobias. I was about 12 or 13 and had just been taught to sew. I made stuffed animals and was very excited to present my "sneaky Snake" to Auntie Irma...a white, stuffed snake of all things.

She screamed when I tried to hand her my treasured snake! and scared the wits out of me. Shaking, frightened, she tried to explain her snake phobia to me and what Phobias were. Heavens. I never forgot that and I felt so bad that I scared her. I never made another snake again!

Shelley Hucul