

Norahmanda MacDonald, *

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♀ 1859 - 1953

Suffix	*	
Birth	13 Sep 1859	
Sex	Female	
Died	3 Apr 1953	Glammis, Ontario, Canada
Buried	UNKNOWN	Purdy Cemetery, Glamis, Ontario
Person ID	I0024	M01
Last Modified	07 Mar 2006	

Father	Angus MacDonald, * , b. 1829, Glengarry County, Ontario	
Mother	Flora Cameron, * , b. 15 Mar 1827, or 1833 or 1837 in Dungannon, Glengarry County, Ontario	
Family ID	F012	Group Sheet

Family	William Henry McNally, * , b. 23 Sep 1857, or 9/23/1858 in Enniskillen, Ontario	
Married	4 May 1881	Glamis, Ontario
Children	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MaryJane (Minnie) McNally, b. 1 Jun 1882, Glammis, Ontario 2. Flora Etta McNally, *, b. 15 Aug 1884, Glammis, Ontario 3. Sarah Maud McNally, b. 15 Aug 1884, Glammis, Ontario 4. Wilbert Angus McNally, b. 12 Jun 1886, Glammis, Ontario 5. William Hector McNally, b. 12 Jun 1888, Glammis, Ontario 6. John Henry McNally, b. 4 Sep 1892, Glammis, Ontario 7. Nora Catharine McNally, b. 22 Nov 1894, Glammis, Ontario 8. John McNally, III, b. 13 Dec 1898, Glammis, Ontario 	
Family ID	F006	Group Sheet

Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Normanda MacDonald McNally was born in 1858. She died in 1953 and is buried in Purdy Cemetery, Glammis, Ontario. <p>Letter from Marion MacLeod</p> <p>Tombstone shows 1858 as date of birth.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>From an newspaper article found in the papers of James and Marion MacLeod:</p> <p>Pioneer Resident</p> <p>On Monday, September 13, Mrs. William H. McNally, the oldest native born resident of this community, celebrated her ninetieth birthday. Mrs. McNally was the oldest daughter of pioneer settlers, Flora Cameron and Angus MacDonald and was born on the farm now occupied by Wellington Ferris, on which the first clearing was done by her father. After her marriage, she went to live on the adjoining farm where she raised her family of eight children. On the death of their daughter Maude, about thirty years ago, they left the farm and took up their residence in the village. Since the death of her husband, in 1928, she has continued to reside here, but for a number of years has spent winters in Toronto with her daughter Nora who is a teacher in the city.</p> <p>Mrs. McNally's parents came in 1857, from Glengarry county afterwards made famous by Ralph Conner, the Rev. Charles Gordon, when they were married by his father the Rev. Daniel Gordon who named his son after her uncle, Charles MacDonald, who was an elder in the Church in Glengarry for over seventy years.</p> <p>A number of years ago, some members of her family visited in Glengarry and were shown through the family burying ground in the cemetery beside Dunvegan Presbyterian Church by a cousin, John Alex Stewart, who was for 39 years Pipe Major of the Dundas Stormont and Glengarry Highlanders. After they had visited the many graves of their relatives even of their great great grandparents, Mr. Stewart made this remark: "I'll venture to say that there is no more Godly dust lying any place in Canada than in this spot." As Mrs. McNally's parents were one of the most Godfearing couples</p>
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who ever lived in this community, she can truly say with the writer of the ninetieth psalm: "Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations."

On her mother's side, Mrs. MacNally traces her ancestry back two of the finest of Scottish families, Lord MacDonald of the Isles and Sir Ewen Cameron, of Lochiel, head of the Cameron Clan, a man of enormous size and strength, one of the bravest commanders that ever served under the British flag. On her father's side, she is a descendant of the MacLeods of Dunvegan Castle, in the Isle of Skye.

From the MacLeods comes a very interesting family tradition regarding the origin of her name Normanda, which has been a family name on her father's side for generations.

During her life time, Mrs. MacNally has seen many changes. She saw Bruce county change from a land covered with bush with scattered clearings to a community of Churches and schools, fine farm homes and good roads. She remembers when the corners on which Glamis now stands were but a mud hole, the outer edge of Greenock swamp, and the first store which was opened by John Preston in his farm home near where Groves Garage now stands. Before then, her mother had to walk to Tiverton, following a blazed trail through the woods and over the streams with a basket on her arm to get even a pound of soda. At that time, the only other means of travel were the oxen.

She has seen wonderful developments in the world of science and invention, the telephone and telegraph, electricity, a source of light and power, the automobile, wireless, the radio, television and atomic energy.

While subject to physical frailties that have come with advancing years, she is in possession of all her faculties and is blessed with the same graciousness of spirit which has characterized her life. Always fond of reading, she has lost none of the keen interest of a long life in matters of Church and state. She inherited a remarkable memory from her father who, although he never had the opportunity of attending school and so could neither read nor write, was ruling elder in the Church until the time of his death and often led the singing at the Gaelic Church Service. From memory he knew all psalms and paraphrases and the rules of law and order of the Church.

During the recent reunion Mrs. MacNally was much pleased to greet old friends who came to see her. Amongst these was Mrs. Bissett, formerly Laetitia Hunter, from Edmonton who came by taxi from Chesley to try to locate the farm on which she was born. Although the Hunter family left here in 1875, Mrs. MacNally remembered them distinctly and gave her the desired information. By a strange coincidence Mrs. Bissett's sister Fanny Hunter, was her dearest girlhood friend.

The radio is a great source of enjoyment to her. As she can no longer attend the services of the church where she was baptized and of which she has been a devoted member all her life, she especially enjoys the privilege of worship in the church of the air.

At a family dinner in her honour, on Sunday, she was especially pleased to have as her guest Benjamin McLennan of Detroit, who celebrated his ninetieth birthday last December and who was her childhood playmate and has been her lifelong friend. Also present were her sister, Mrs. Harvey G. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Clark and Mrs. James Thompson. With her were also of her own family Mr. and Mrs. R. A. MacRae, and Hector MacNally, of Detroit, Nora of Toronto and Wilbert at home.

Mrs. MacNally appreciates very much the many birthday greetings received from friends far and near. As the shadows lengthen, she can truly say in the words of her beloved: "Surely goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever".

Obituary

Another link in the early history of our village was severed in the death of Mrs. W. H. McNally, who passed away at the home of her daughter, Miss Nora McNally in Toronto, on Friday, April 3rd. The late Mrs. McNally, who was in her ninety-fifth year, was born on the farm now owned by Wellington Ferris, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Angus MacDonald. After her marriage to Mr. Wm. H. McNally she went to live on the adjoining farm where she raised her eight children. Later Mr. and Mrs. McNally move to Glamis, where the former passed away in 1928. Mrs. McNally continued to reside in the village, but for several years past spent the winter months in Toronto with her daughter, Nora. The late Mrs. McNally was indeed a worthy daughter of pioneer settlers, and was intensely proud of her ancestry, and loyal to the beliefs and way of life of her forefathers. With an extremely alert mind she selected and practised in her own life those features worthy of emulation. By constant reading, and latterly by means of the radio, she kept abreast of the times and was a delightful and charming conversationalist whose opinions were well worthy of consideration. She was a constant source of pleasure to her friends who joyfully anticipated a visit with her. Her home and church were the real centre of her life and provided much of her zest for living. Her six surviving children can indeed rise up and call her blessed. All her life she was interested in the activities of the Presbyterian Church, of which she was a member for seventy-five years. Truly, Mrs. McNally was a source of inspiration to all those with whom she came in contact with. Following a service on Monday evening from the Sherrin Funeral Chapel, Toronto, the remains of the deceased were conveyed to Glamis where the funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon, conducted by Rev. P. F. McSweeney, assisted by a former student pastor, Rev. D. P. Rowland, now of Toronto. The floral tributes were magnificent and numerous. Interment was in Purdy Cemetery. The pallbearers were: - Messrs. John Wrightson, A. A. Greer, M. Thompson, D. Gamble, E. Colwell and John Fitzsimmons. The surviving children; all of whom were present at the funeral are: - Mrs. R. A. MacRae, Detroit; Mrs. D. MacLeod, Kincardine; Hector of Detroit; Wilbert of Glamis; John of California, and Nora of Toronto. Three sisters also mourn her loss: - Mrs. Harvey Clark, Paisley; Miss Christine MacDonald and Mrs. A. Love of Detroit. To these and other near relatives is extended the sympathy of the community.

After the funeral of Mrs. W. H. McNally last Tuesday, Miss Margaret A. MacLennan, assisted by Mrs. A. A. Greer, entertained some twenty of the relatives to lunch before they set out for their various homes.

Obituary

McNally, Normanda MacDonald - At her late residence, Apartment 5, 45 Benlamond Ave., Toronto, on Friday, April 3, 1953, Normanda MacDonald, in her 95th year, beloved wife of the late William H. McNally (formerly of Glamis, Ont.) dear mother of Minnie (Mrs. R. A. MacRae), Detroit; Etta (Mrs Donald MacLeod), Kincardine, Ont; Hector of Detroit;

John of California, and Nora and Wilbert McNally of Toronto; dear sister of Flora (Mrs. H. G. Clark), Paisley, Ont; Christie MacDonald and Elsie (Mrs. A. Love) of Detroit. Resting at the Wm. Sherrin funeral home, 873 Kingston Rd. (at Beech Ave.), Toronto. Service in the chapel Monday evening, 8 o'clock, thence to St. Paul's Presbyterian church, Glamis, Ont. from 12 noon Tuesday, for service at 2 p.m. Interment Purdy cemetery.
