



## Eleanor Hansen

December 31, 2014

Thelma ELEANOR Hansen (Irwin) of Chatham and formerly of Wallaceburg died peacefully in Chatham on Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at the age of 86. Eleanor is the daughter of the late Jack & Amy (Witherell) Ritchie. Beloved wife of the late Andrew Clifford "Mac" Irwin and Walter "Dene" Hansen. Loving mother of Brenda McNeil (Rick Smith) and Maureen Brown (Doug). Dear grandmother of Lisa Jenkins (Kevin), Mark McNeil (Joanne), Andrew Brown (Alana), Jamie Brown and great grandmother of Norian and Kailyn Jenkins and the late Matthew McNeil (2007). Sister of Marilyn Tervola and the late Kathleen Robson and Mildred Van Damme. A private family funeral will be held at the HAYCOCK-CAVANAGH FUNERAL HOME, 409 Nelson Street in Wallaceburg with interment in Riverview Cemetery. If desired, remembrances to the Arthritis Society or Maple City Residence may be left at the funeral home. 519.627.3231. Online tributes may be left at [www.CavanaghFuneralHome.ca](http://www.CavanaghFuneralHome.ca)

# Comments

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Brenda and Maureen:

Sincere sympathy on the death of your mother. It was announced in Knox Presbyterian Church in Woodstock last Sunday. I have thought a lot about her in the last few days.

It has been over 40 years since your family lived in Woodstock but I had the privilege of knowing your mother for about 10 years. She was a wonderful mentor and encourager as I participated in teaching Sunday School, VBS, Bible Studies, WMS and helping with Explorers. It was a privilege and an honour to have known her. I was truly blessed.

Elaine Stevens

**Elaine Stevens** - January 08, 2015 at 10:52 AM

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Brenda, Maureen and Families - Our condolences to each of you - Eleanor will be truly missed at New St. Andrew's. She led our ladies in worship many times and could always be counted on to participate in any function.

I last visited at Maple City Residence and she was still wanting all the information about the congregation and kept me up to date on all family happenings.

Cherish the memories as they are for sure great ones.

Dick and Elaine Ross

**Elaine Ross** - January 07, 2015 at 06:25 PM

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“ To Eleanor's family:

I led a worship service at Maple City Residence today and missed seeing Eleanor in her usual place. The Activities staff told me that she had passed away suddenly on December 31st. I am sorry for your loss.

Eleanor had shared Maureen's poems with me on a couple of occasions and I even read one at the service. She was so proud of you, Maureen.

Eleanor also asked if we might try a Bible study at the residence and we met twice in December with a view to start again next week. Sadly, without her influence, it appears that it will not continue. I pray that somehow she knew and knows that she did have an influence in this world that will continue.

May your faith in the resurrection and your trust in the Holy Spirit as your Comforter give you peace.

Prayerfully, Pastor Marg Moriyama

**Pastor Marg Moriyama** - January 07, 2015 at 03:52 PM

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“ My condolences to all;

Eleanor was a long time member of New St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Dover. She was a fixture at every church event and even made great effort to be at church when her mobility was limited.

I had the pleasure of being Eleanor's pastor since 2007 and would visit her regularly to share the church news and to catch up on her family news. She loved her family deeply and was very proud of all your accomplishments. Eleanor was a great example of Christian love and compassion at the Maple City Retirement Home. She was always reaching out to her neighbours and fellow residents to offer hope and prayer.

She was an avid reader and knew her Bible front to back as well as keeping up with the world around her. She always kept the church in her prayers and thoughts. She loved to find out who had a new baby or who was getting married etc. Some how she kept it all straight and knew all the family connections. She always had a sharp mind for detail.

It was a real honor and privilege to be with her and family at her bedside on New Years Eve day to pray over her and share communion at the Lord's table. I read several passages of scripture for her. I anointed her with oil scented with frankincense and myrrh and prayed with her. She had long been prepared for this day in her heart and was anxious to make the trip from earth to heaven. God is gracious and her passing is an answer to her prayers to be with her loved ones who had gone on before her.

Know that she is enjoying all that Heaven has to offer and her New Year celebration in heaven is more wonderful than we could have imagined. One of the Bible passages that I shared is one that I am sure she would quote to all of us now. "However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" 1 Corinthians 2:9 NIV

Eleanor has now seen, heard, and understands just how marvellous Heaven is and how great the Fathers love for us is. Her prayer would be that all of you would one day join her there. Take time this New Year to ask Jesus into your heart and learn about His love for you as Eleanor did and one day you too will understand that Heaven is worth it all.

Forgive me that I am not able to be with you during this time as I am away but know that Rev. Doug Cameron will do all in his power to prove a blessing to you. May God's peace and comfort rest on you all as you gather to remember Eleanor.

Blessings to you all, our hearts are with yours at this time.

Pastor Mark Aarssen and all the Saints  
at New St. Andrews Presbyterian Church  
Dover - Chatham-Kent



**Mark Aarssen** - January 07, 2015 at 10:08 AM

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“ Brenda and Maureen and Families,  
We are saddened to hear about Eleanor. We had such a nice visit before Christmas. I remember how Dene would always tell the story of how they met and how happy he was on their wedding day. As Eric said she made him happy and we are glad that they did have that time together. When we would visit she would update us on your families especially the little ones. I remember when we took her to visit Dene and we had a history lesson and your family tree from Chatham through to the cemetery, It was all quite interesting. She loved to talk and had such a wealth of information. We will miss our visits. Sorry for your loss.  
Paul, Shannon, Marc, Brian Hansen

**Paul and Shannon Hansen** - January 06, 2015 at 11:08 AM

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“ Paul And Shannon Hansen lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Hansen



**Paul and Shannon Hansen** - January 06, 2015 at 11:04 AM

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“ Thanks Eleanor for giving my father so much joy. Our hearts go out to your family and friends at this difficult time. Always enjoyed those hour long conversations on the phone...  
Ian, Jo-ann & Scott Hansen  
Scott says "I Love You Grandma"

**Ian Hansen** - January 06, 2015 at 12:18 AM

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“ Rosie lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Hansen



**rosie** - January 05, 2015 at 04:30 PM

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“ Our thoughts are with you. She made my Dad happy and I am glad she was a part of his life.

Eric, Sally, Joshua, Samuel, Aaron and Amelia Hansen

**Eric Hansen** - January 05, 2015 at 12:08 PM

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“ To Brenda , Maureen , Lisa and Mark . My thoughts and prayers are with you in this most difficult time. I know you were close to Eleanor and she will be sorely missed. I am sure she is in Gods loving arms now .



**steve mcneil** - January 04, 2015 at 07:47 PM

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“ My love and sincerest condolences to Maureen, Doug and your family. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Please call or message me if you need anything. With much love... Rose Whelpdale

**Rose Whelpdale** - January 04, 2015 at 05:40 PM

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“ Doug Brown lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Hansen



Doug Brown - January 04, 2015 at 02:39 PM

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“ I will always remember how she would call me "her -only- granddaughter." Big shoes at times to fill, but I will always remember those times now with fondness.



Lisa Jenkins - January 04, 2015 at 02:11 PM

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“ Thoughts and Prayers to Brenda McNeil and Family

Theresa And Pete Heynen - January 04, 2015 at 02:09 PM

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“ Theresa And Pete Heynen lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Hansen



Theresa And Pete Heynen - January 04, 2015 at 01:59 PM

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“ Mark McNeil lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Hansen



**Mark McNeil** - January 04, 2015 at 01:34 PM

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“ Dear Brenda and Maureen,  
The memories we have of your mother are very happy. She was a friendly, outgoing woman who loved to help people. May light everlasting shine on her.  
Our deep sympathy goes to you and your families at this sad time.  
Josie and Bob Miller

**Josie Miller** - January 04, 2015 at 12:46 PM

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“ Our sincere sympathy to all of you in the death of Eleanor. It is sad to lose someone we love, but remember all of your happy times together. May she rest in peace.

Mary and Elizabeth Barr, St. James Church, Chatham, ON

**Elizabeth Barr** - January 04, 2015 at 11:12 AM

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“ Betty And Bill Innis lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Hansen



**Betty and Bill innis** - January 04, 2015 at 07:48 AM