

DICK & RUBY SMITH

Mentions in [The Daily Herald-Tribune](#), Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada

Anniversary couple honored

Families, friends and relations from near and far gathered recently at the farm home of Leslie and Adele Fraser, of Teepee Creek, to help celebrate the 40th wedding anniversary of Adolph and Mary Sorken.

Adolf and Mary (nee Smith) became man and wife on the 12th of December, 1938, at Emmanuel Anglican Church in Sexsmith, with Rev. Webb officiating. The bride was radiant in a floor-length gown of pale blue. Her bridesmaid was her youngest sister, Rose Smith (now Fitzsimmons), and Adolf's brother, Sigvard Sorken, acted as best man.

The wedding cake was made and decorated by the bride's mother, Mrs. Edith Smith, who decorated cakes for hundreds of brides in the district.

Mary was given in marriage by her only brother, **Dick Smith**.

Both the bride and the groom were from hardy pioneer stock. Adolf's parents, Andrew and Karen Sorken, homesteaded in the North Kleskun area in the fall of 1916, when Adolf was 10 years old. Mary came to the Mount Star district with her parents, Tom and Edith Smith, in April, 1926.

The Sorken's entire family was on hand to help celebrate. Their only son, Tom, and his wife, Darlene; their three daughters and their husbands; Carolyn and Rode McLeod, Adele and Leslie Fraser, and Linda and Ray Ogden; their 10 grandchildren and only great-granddaughter were on hand to join in the festivities.

Eldest grandson, Wade McLeod, proposed a toast to his grandparents, paying tribute to their years of love and devotion to their family and wishing them many more years of happiness.

A lovely wishing well, designed and made by daughter-in-law, Darlene Sorken, was filled to overflowing with cards and donations.

A beautiful two-tier wedding cake was made by the Sorken's three daughters and decorated by old family friend, Mrs. Olive Morgan. Dozens of flashcubes flashed as the beaming bride and groom of 40 years ago cut their cake.

Mary's bridesmaid, sister Rose Fitzsimmons and her husband, John, were present, as was her sister, Becky, and brother-in-law, Jack Carney, of Crooked Creek, and brother, **Dick Smith**.

Adolf's sisters and their husbands, Ella and Lester Johnson and Mabel and Nibs Vickerson were among the merrymakers, as were several nephews, nieces and cousins.



Adolf and Mary Sorken.

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William Alvin Delaney, 86, of Blind Bay, B.C.

(William) Alvin Delaney of Blind Bay, B.C. (formerly of Louis Creek, B.C., Tupper, B.C. and Clairmont, Alta.) passed away on Thursday, September 12, 2002 at the Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops, B.C., at the age of 86 years and seven months.

Dad fought long and hard to stay with us but died, as he lived, without complaint and only concern for those of us who kept the vigil by his bedside until the end.

Alvin was born on February 14, 1916 in Thessalon, Ont., to John and Alberta (Bertha) Delaney. In 1918, following the death of his father, Alvin and his mother and five siblings moved to the Kleskun Hill area and he gained a step-dad, Isaac (Ike) Boyer and later four additional siblings.

Alvin lived, worked and made his home in the Kleskun/Clairmont area until 1962 when he moved his family to the Tupper area.

In 1974 upon retirement, he bought a small acreage at Louis Creek, B.C., and resided there until his failing health necessitated a move to a seniors home at Blind Bay, B.C., in June 2002. Dad's health improved immensely in this new environment but, sadly, on August 17, 2002 he entered the hospital where he spent his last days.

Dad knew who all of us were, to the end, and kept his sense of humour even though we knew he was in extreme pain.

We felt honoured to be able to spend these last weeks with him as he had sacrificed so much to raise us, and help us whenever he could, throughout our lives. Dad always gave unselfishly to others, never asking anything in return. He will be greatly missed.

Alvin was predeceased by his parents and step-dad, infant son, James Alvin; sisters, Annie Delaney, Edna Ames and Florence Delaney; brother, Johnny Delaney, Archie Delaney and Clarence (Bub) Boyer; brothers-in-law: Carl Cotnam, Fred Ames, Art Bryenton, Johnny Fitzsimmons, **Dick Smith** and Albert Butler; sisters-in-law: Alice (Delaney) Balmer; in-laws: Marion and Grace White, Hill Jory, Howard and Evelyn Anderson, Everett White, Lloyd and Maida Sauder and Dan and Ila White.

Alvin is survived by wife, Jessie of Red Deer, Alta.; children, Melvin (Gail) of Red Deer, Garry (Carol) of Scotch Creek, B.C., Ruth (Alvin) Breitzkreutz of Bezanson, Alta., Cleora (Larry) Stokes of Penticton, B.C., and Daniel of Barriere, B.C.; grandchildren, Kevin (Aleta) Delaney, Jody (Stan) Sewell, Sean (Marcia) Delaney, Denny (Michelle) Delaney, Jason (Michelle) Breitzkreutz, Peter Delaney, Carey (Shelby) Delaney and John (Lisa) Stokes; great-grandchildren, Bretton and Jordan Delaney, Taylor and Allison Delaney and Jon Sewell; brothers, Raymond Boyer and Harry Boyer; sisters, Lila Cotnam, Ada Bryenton and Ruthe Butler; brothers-in-law, Bill (Kay) Balmer; sisters-in-law, Rose

Fitzsimmons, Ruby Boyer, Rita Boyer and Jean Boyer and in-law Cleora Jory. Alvin is also survived by numerous step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren; many nieces, nephews and friends.

At Alvin's request, no formal service will be held. Instead, all family and friends are invited to join the family for a "Time of Remembrance and Fellowship" at the Bezanson Golden Years Centre on Saturday, October 19, 2002 from 1-5 p.m. Bring your pictures and your memories!

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Kleskun Hills Museum Society, in memory of our Dad.

Cremation has taken place and a private burial will take place, at a later date, at the Glen Leslie Cemetery.

Alvin will be laid to rest, at his request, near his family and beside his brother, Johnny. The plot was graciously donated by Rose Fitzsimmons.

Ruth (Boyer) Butler, 79, of Vancouver, B.C.



Ruth May (Boyer) Butler passed away on Friday, October 18, 2002 after a lengthy illness. Ruth was born in Grande Prairie on Decem-

ber 4, 1922, the daughter of Isaac and Bertha Boyer. Ruth took her schooling at the East Kleskun School which is now situated at Kleskun Hill Museum.

In 1942, Ruth and husband **Dick Smith** moved to Vancouver where Dick was stationed in the Canadian Army. After Dick was discharged, they remained to make their home in Vancouver.

Ruth is lovingly remembered and survived by her son, Rick Smith; and grandsons, Ricky and Dennis. Also surviving are brothers, Ray (Rita) Boyer, Harry (Jean) Boyer; sisters, Lila Cotnam and Ada Bryenton; sisters-in-law, Ruby Boyer, Jessie Delaney and Rose Fitzsimmons and many special nieces, nephews and cousins.

A special time of remembrance will take place at the Bezanson Golden Years Centre from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, November 2, 2002.