

## **GWENDOLYN MARGUERITE (GWEN) SMITH, UE**

Gwendolyn Marguerite Meeks was born August 15, 1921, grew up in Bellrock, Ontario - the fourth of five children of Claire Meeks and Mary Rosetta Reppard. In her early adult years, she moved to Kingston, Ontario where she worked and attended the Kingston Business College. In 1944, she married Crawford Smith. At the end of WWII, they moved to their long-time home west of Bath, along the shores of Lake Ontario. Once her children were all in school, Gwen returned to work at Millhaven Fibres where she served as a secretary in the Research Lab and later for the factory's comptroller until retiring in 1984. Gwen had a passion for music, and researching family history. She took piano and singing lessons and for many years directed the Junior Choir and played the organ for services once a month at Bath United Church, where she also taught Sunday School. Gwen was also a proud descendent of many United Empire Loyalists (Jeptha Hawley, Sheldon Hawley, James Johnson, Joseph Jenkes, Amos Martin, Philip Switzer, and Mathias Rose). She joined the Bay of Quinte Branch in 1957 during its charter year, and was the branch president in 1974-1976 and again in 1980-1981. She was also very active on the executive of the Dominion level of the UELAC and served as Dominion President during 1984 to 1986. One of the proudest events of her life was being presented to Queen Elizabeth II at the official opening of the Loyalist Parkway in 1984 in Amherstview. Gwen was inducted into the Bay of Quinte Loyal Americans Hall of Honour at their first ceremony held in South Fredericksburg on June 13, 2003.



Gwen was predeceased by her husband Crawford Smith, and daughter Susan Simpson. She died on September 16, 2014 and was buried in McDowell Cemetery near Bath.