

MILDRED & LAURENCE PARRISH

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

Bezanson seniors get a home



Smoky River MLA Marvin Moore (centre, right photo above) cut the Golden Years Centre opening ribbon, assisted by club President Meryle Patterson, while club charter members Mildred Parrish (left) and Hazel Weegar assisted.

By MARY-ANN THURBER

After nearly eight years of hard work and worrying, seniors in the Bezanson area finally have a place to call their own and they celebrated that fact March 4 with the grand opening of the Bezanson Golden Years Centre.

Construction of the centre is not yet quite finished, with more work is needed to complete the basement, but the excited seniors have already moved in.

The \$74,000 building was funded with grants from the New Horizon Program for senior's projects as well as funds or material donations from the County of Grande Prairie, Alberta

Parks, Wildlife and Recreation, Alberta Culture and Procter and Gamble.

Meryle Patterson, president of the Bezanson Senior's Club, said much of the work and craftsmanship that went into constructing the building was provided by volunteer labor.

He said the seniors formed the club in 1981 and as their ranks grew, now numbering about 49, they found their temporary home in the Legion Hut in Bezanson wasn't large enough to house their activities.

They began applying for programs that supply funds for such projects and say that although money for the project was readily available, only the long hours of volunteer time the seniors put

in on organizing construction of the building made the project possible.

Hazel Weegar, a resident of Bezanson since 1916, said it's been exciting for her to take part in the arrangements for the building. She said that although Bezanson is a small community, it is also very spread out and it's important for the seniors to have a place to meet.

During the afternoon of entertainment and socializing, the Bredeson band of Ed, Mable and Ernie played some told-time favorites and Willie Munro from DeBolt favored the audience with an accordion tune.

The open house event was attended by Smoky River MLA Marvin Moore and Smoky River PC candidate Walter Paszkowski, and Peace River MP Albert Cooper sent a telegram. Presentations included a donation of \$1,000 from the Grande Prairie Old Timer's Association, a monetary donation from the DeBolt Pioneer Centre, a plaque and provincial flag from the Alberta government, a potted boston fern from the County of Grande Prairie, flower arrangements from the Valleyview and District Sun Valley Pioneers and Francis Goodland, and a cake from Canadian Motor Coach travel.

MILDRED VIOLA PARRISH

Mrs. Mildred Viola Parrish passed away on Saturday, September 9, 1989, at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie, Alberta, at age 74.

Mildred was born in Iowa, U.S.A. on February 2, 1915, and had been a long time resident of the Bezanson area. Mildred lived at Mackenzie Place since November, 1988.

She is survived by her son Dale (Margaret) of Bezanson; 3 daughters: Janet (Ralph) Dahlberg of Prince George, B.C., Sylvia (John) Bruno of Salmo, B.C., and Helen (Bruce) Fenton of Bezanson; 11 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; 1 brother, Meryl (Mary) Patterson of Bezanson; 1 sister Minnie Sackett of Candle Lake, Saskatchewan; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her loving husband Laurence in 1972; infant son William Laurence; her parents, Guy and Bertha Patterson; sister Velda Patterson; brother Gene Ronald Patterson; her step-mother Addabelle; and brother-in-law Nemo Sackett.

Funeral service for the late Mildred Viola Parrish will be held at the Oliver Funeral Chapel, Grande Prairie, Alberta, on Tuesday, September 12, 1989, at 2 p.m., with Pastor Jake Thiessen officiating. Interment to follow at the Glen Leslie Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes to the Diabetes Association, or the Golden Years Centre in Bezanson, would be appreciated.

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to the Oliver Funeral Chapel, Funeral Directors and Licensed Crematorium, Grande Prairie, Alberta. Telephone 532-2929. a

6 In Memoriam

In Loving Memory of

LAURENCE PARRISH

who passed away March 26, 1972

and **MILDRED PARRISH**

who passed away September 9,
1989.

Remember them with a smile today,
They were not one for tears.
Reflect instead on memories
Of all our happy years.
Recall to mind the way they spoke
And all the things they said.
Their strength, their stance, the way
they walked
Remember those instead.
The good advice they gave us,
The eyes that shone with laughter.
So much of them will never die
But live on forever after.

We miss you.

Love Parrish, Dahlberg, Bruno, Fen-
ton Families.
