

Lena C. Reynolds and The Reynolds Funds

Lena Reynolds and her twin sister Leah Rose were born May 13, 1915 in Ellicottville, the daughters of the late Karl and Clara Dreier Reynolds. Leah Rose died from tuberculosis in 1946. Lena died at age 100 on May 18, 2015 in Bradford Pa.

Lena was a graduate of Ellicottville High School and Jamestown Business College. She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Ellicottville and a member of the St. John's Guild, formerly a vestry member, former organist and former secretary of St. John's.

Lena was a great preserver of history. In the early 1970's Lena had taken a class in how to do family history and she spent the next thirty years or so pursuing that project. She was a charter member of the Ellicottville Historical Society and town historian for a time. She was secretary and treasurer of the Ellicottville Cemetery Association for 30 years.

Lena was treasurer for the Salamanca Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution and had served as regent and registrar for the organization.

The home in which Lena lived is one of the oldest in the Village of Ellicottville. It was purchased by her grandparents in the early 1900's. Both Lena and her sister Leah were born in the house. As an avid gardener Lena created a magical woodland in the back yard to be viewed from the house. The "little house" next door was rented out, usually to people with children. In memories gathered by Sue Parsons, Lena's neighbor, there are many stories from the children who lived on Jefferson Street and who were guests of Lena. Baseball games which began in the yard led to the formation of Little League Baseball in the village.

Lena's will granted a portion of her residuary estate to the Episcopal Diocese with the provision that it become the corpus of "The Leah R. and Lena C. Reynolds Memorial Trust Fund" and be used to assist Episcopal congregations. In addition, Lena's will provided for the bequest of her house and real property to the diocese. The Trustees of the diocese have designated the proceeds of sale of the property to be invested and the income to be used to supplement the income received from the residuary trust. The two funds make up "The Reynolds Funds".