

Florence Winslow McCann born November 24, 1911 to Myrtle Morgan Winslow and Edward E. Winslow and granddaughter of Docas Merrill Winslow, gold post recipient of 1960, was one of four children. I was born in Falmouth half a mile from the town hall, which was located on the Whitney Property later to be moved to its present location.

Growing up in Falmouth was not an easy task. Transportation over the dirt roads was by bicycle or horse and buggy. We had no running water. We caught rain in barrels or a cistern and used kerosene lamps for lights.

At the age of four my father was shot and killed at the Falmouth Railroad crossing by two hobos. This presented a hardship on the whole family, my mother raising three children ages 5, 4, and 2 months, my brother dying in 1913.

I was educated in a one-room schoolhouse, Houston School on Falmouth Road. I walked four miles a day to the train or trolley in order to go to Deering High School graduating in 1930. I then went on to Shaw's Business College, graduated and worked at Portland Rendering Company and Assurance Insurance Co.

In 1935 I married Harvey E. McCann of 58 years and was later blessed with two daughters, Maureen McCann Grubb and Jeaneen McCann Coleman.

One of the important parts of my life was my faith. From birth I attended the Second Congregational Church later to become the Falmouth Congregational Church. I served on many committees, was a member of the choir for over 60 years, and participated in all activities, bean suppers, and mission work.

A motto of mine was staying active. Early in life I raised thousands of chickens in order to supplement our family income. I have always loved having a vegetable garden. Not only did I work in my vegetable garden but I also had a beautiful flower garden. These activities plus my church and family kept me real busy.

At my present age, 101.5, I am still active with my family, cooking for the church suppers, and working in my gardens.

My secret for living as long as I have is that I have a wonderful family who continues to think that I can do everything and insist that I do. I continue to stay active, mind and body, eat healthy and find strength from my faith.

* Charter Member of The Falmouth Historical Society