



Muriel Cameron

Muriel was born on April 12, 1936, and she has been a going concern ever since! She says she has always been active and busy and feels she is fortunate that she can do the things she likes to do. She retired from nursing in 1999 feeling that she had done her best as a nurse but that she wanted to have the time to try other things in her life. She never went back to paid nursing, but it is evident that her medical knowledge is put to use when it is needed for friends and family.

She is a quilter and a musician/singer, a natural leader and faithful friend willing to help whenever needed. This leads to her volunteering in Porcupine Plain in these ways:

- President of the Sunset Club Board. The Club is a volunteer organization that offers social activities on a weekly and monthly basis.
- As part of the Porcupine Plain Inter-agency Group which plans and offers programs, events and activities for the town and area.
- She began an indoor walking group, leads a community choir, has assisted with the Porcupine Plain Donor's Choice canvassing, and is a member of the Porcupine Plain Healthcare Auxiliary which has fundraised to purchase equipment for health facilities.

Muriel misses Jim, her husband of 61 years, who died 4 years ago, but says she knows that she cannot go “back to normal”. She is learning a “new normal” for her life. Jim and Muriel had three children, Beverley, Barbara and Bradley and now her family also includes six grandchildren and five great-granddaughters. She obviously enjoys her family relationships and it is even more obvious how much her family treasures her. She will spend Christmas in Saskatoon and then visit with other households, culminating in a New Year's 65th birthday party for Beverley. In January she will join Bradley and his wife and another couple for a trip to Phoenix to enjoy the warmth.

Muriel offered some of her outlook on life — when it is great and fun and when it is tough. “We have to just realize that hard and sad times are inevitable and we can make our way through them. You find others are there for you and you can be there for others. You can't do everything, but you do what you can.”

Muriel said she likes to read true stories, especially ones about espionage during past wars. She knows what she likes to do and feels so lucky that she still can decide to do those things.

In Porcupine Plain she appreciates that she can go to the coffee shop on any day and she will know the people that are there and have good conversations. That is why she wants to live in the town as long as possible.

This year (2022) Muriel was nominated for SSM's Celebrating Seniors Awards for her volunteer service in Porcupine Plain. No words could be more accurate than those offered to explain why she deserved the award: “The community is a better place because of Muriel.”

— Published in *Gray Matters*, Winter 2022

