



**THIESSEN,  
Edna  
(Schroeder)  
July 22, 1926 -  
Aug. 6, 2021**

Edna Thiessen, aged 95 years, passed away peacefully at Manitou Lodge in the Watrous District Health Complex, Watrous, Sask. on Friday, August 6, 2021.

Edna was born July 22, 1926 to David and Augusta

Schroeder in the village of Secymin, which was on the banks of the Weichsel – Neidering River, tributary of the Vistula River not too far from Warsaw. There she had a happy childhood growing up on a small farm helping her dad with all kinds of animals and a small orchard. She especially liked the orchard, and going with her dad to sell the fruit in Warsaw. She had two brothers – Robert and Edmund, and one sister Emma.

Then the war broke out. First they were invaded by Germany, and then at the end of the war they were occupied by Russia. She saw a lot of people getting killed and a lot of starvation and hunger.

With the help of some people working for MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) through the American Red Cross, she was able to escape to Western Germany which was now held by the Western allies.

She came by boat to Halifax, N.S., Canada and then by train to Drake, Sask. She was taken in by her Aunt Lydia and Uncle Edmund Schroeder.

She lived there until she married Henry Thiessen from Watrous, Sask. There they had a small farm and raised all kinds of animals and grew grain and hay. Eventually they set up a dairy.

They had five sons: Harvey (Marilyn), Bernie (Phyllis), John (Vicki), Dave (Patti), Garry (Ruth), and 12

grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Family was extremely important to her. She loved to have our families get together, and enjoyed cooking for everyone.

Going to church was very important to her. Faith in God and Jesus, and reading the bible was always a part of her life. She was sometimes uncomfortable in large gatherings, but was amazing in small groups or on a one-on-one basis. She was a shining example of a fine Christian and a life well lived. She will be missed especially by family, but also by many, many friends both here and in different parts of the world.

Funeral service was held at Philadelphia Mennonite Brethren Church, near Watrous, Sask. on Friday, August 13 conducted by Rod Dick.

Pallbearers were Harvey Thiessen, Bernie Thiessen, John Thiessen, David Thiessen, Garry Thiessen and Edmond Drachenberg. Holly Dick and Barbara Elder were guest register attendants. Memorial table attendants were Ike and Linda Pankratz. Ushers were Ken Bushman, Norman Schroeder, Doug Thomas and Phil Willms. Eulogy was given by Harvey Thiessen. Phyllis Thiessen and John Thiessen gave tributes. Pictorial presentation was by Marilyn Thiessen and Chelsea Thiessen. Special music was provided by Ruben Bushman, Wayne Dick, Les Toews and Fred Toman. Ruth Kornelsen was pianist.

Interment followed in Philadelphia Mennonite Cemetery.

Memorial donations directed to Manitou Lodge Auxiliary would be appreciated.

To leave online condolences, tributes or to make a donation, please visit [www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com](http://www.fotheringham-mcdougall.com)

  
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