

## Florence Mclean Duncan

### Arts



Florence McLean Duncan graduated from Collinwood High School in 1944. As Florence has gone through life, she has stated that she acquired many social and work talents that have served her well through the years due to the excellent teachers she had while attending Collinwood High School.

Florence met her husband Norman Duncan in Scotland. He left Scotland to come to the United States to marry Florence. Norman served in the British Army for 2 years during the Korea War and served in China. With his arrival in the United States, Norman was drafted into the United States Army. Due to his experience in the British Army, he was assigned to Washington, D.C., where he became a part time driver for President Dwight D. Eisenhower, after Eisenhower had suffered a heart attack.

Norman served as Commander of the United States Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion Post 21 Veteran's Club. Florence served as President of the United States branch of the Royal Canadian Auxiliary Post 21 Veteran's Club. Florence influenced legislation by writing to House of Representative Frances Payne Bolton.

Florence wanted to know, "Why Canadian and British Army Veterans were required to register for the United States draft and be inducted into service when they arrived in the U.S. – since they had already served in the Canadian and British Armies which were Allies with the U.S.". A bill was put through Congress and passed so that these Veterans did not have to register for the draft.

From 1956 – 1961, Florence spent 5 years as Secretary to the Chief Accountant at TRW.

Florence also worked at WZAK Radio from 1969 – 1981. During that time, WZAK featured nationality type music from the British Isles – including English, Scottish and Welsh performers. When WZAK switched to a more contemporary rock format, Florence moved along with the music of the British Isles to WCSB at Cleveland State University from 1981 – 1995. Florence was also responsible for sponsoring many British Isle Imports to the United States that were featured in "British Fairs" for over 8 years. She also sponsored and brought to the United States such diverse British Isles talent as: British Bagpipe Bands, an English Choir Group for the 1976 Centennial and in 1978, English Singer Max Bygraves (the British "Frank Sinatra"), the Morriston Orpheus 200 member Men's Welsh Choir and the 1985 Male Voice Choir from North Wales.

Florence became actively involved with the Cleveland Heights Senior Activity Center. She has spent over 19 years working and volunteering there. She has held various posts such as Assistant Program Coordinator, Treasurer and Accountant for the Senior Activity Center. Florence covers cultural activities, activities related to the arts, antiques, travelogues, drama and many other topics. The Supervisor of the Senior Activity Center consults with Florence regarding programming, planning and many other items prior to making decisions. Florence is responsible for all Bus Trip activities and the logistics alone are a challenge that Florence handles with professionalism and grace. She searches for travel locations, hires bus companies for transport, coordinates travel, organizes meals and schedules with restaurants, plus searches for sights of interest for

each trip. Florence also teaches "Olde Tyme Scottish Dancing" every week at the Senior Activity Center. Florence has actually taught Scottish Folk Dancing all around Northern Ohio for over 40 years.

Florence's husband Norman passed away in July of 2006. Florence and Norman have two children, David and Diane.