

# A Journey Back

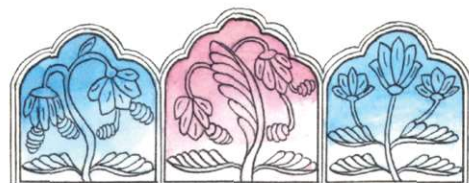
The History of the Caldwell/Pendlington Family

*by George Steven Maxted - June 2015*



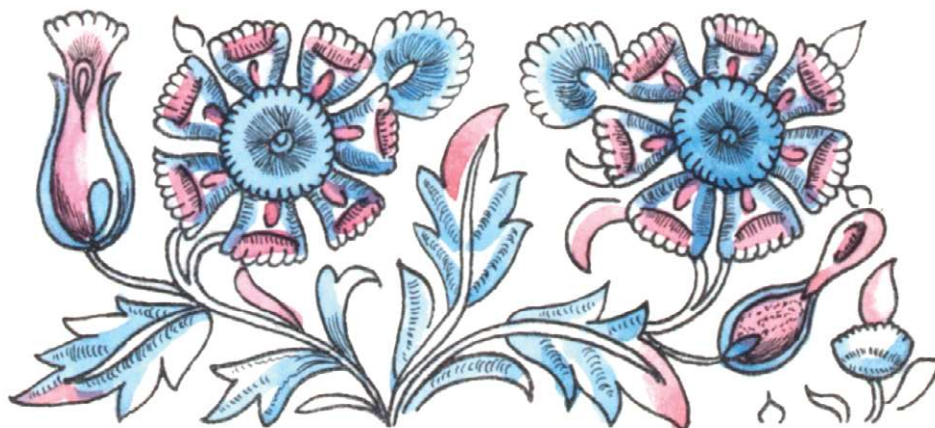
## Dedication

*This historical account of the Caldwell & Pendlington families is dedicated to two women who have had a very great influence in my life, and to their grandchildren, whose lives they also touched greatly ~ my mother, Margaret L. Maxted (Caldwell) and Nana (Florence) Caldwell.*



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# Preface

Just a few pointers as to articles and abbreviations which are mentioned throughout this account. Every attempt has been made to document information with records that are currently available. These documents include church records, birth/marriage/death records, wills, pictures and eye witness accounts passed from one generation to the next. Throughout this account, the following abbreviations are used - b. = born; c. = christened; m. = marriage; d. = death; g = great, s/o = son of; d/o = daughter of. These abbreviations are also used on the '**Descendency Chart ~ Document #020,**' and referred to throughout the account.



# Introduction

*“History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its themes,  
to revive its echoes and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days.”*

~ Sir Winston Spencer Churchill

What I now write involves the story of a family ~ and for those of us who find ourselves related to the Caldwell/Pendlington families through blood ties or marriage, it is part of our history. This account spans a period of over 200 years or what could be considered 8 generations. The history of the world is one of repetition, and it is true of families as well. Our genes and DNA play an important part in that cycle of repetition, whether for good or for bad.

The question may be asked, what inspired me to write such a family history? Last year (2014) I did a similar history of my father's family, the Maxteds. It was both challenging and interesting and brought back so many memories that I wanted to write one of my mother's side as well. She was a 'Caldwell,' Margaret Lorraine, daughter of William Robert and Florence Caldwell, whom many of us remember. 'Nana' Caldwell was a 'Pendlington,' hence the family connection which we will refer to many times throughout this account.

To begin with, there are two biblical passages that come to mind. Joel 1:3, “Tell your children about it, let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.” I know that my cousin Sharon Benassi (nee Martin) will agree with this passage, having mentioned a similar desire in her correspondence with me. Then also, Eccles. 3: 1 – 2, “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. A time to be born, and a time to die.”

Regardless of our religious beliefs, I am sure everyone would agree that each family has a story to tell, and when we explore our own family history, we make it our own. While we can no longer dialogue with our loved ones who have passed on, we can certainly share it with our kith and kin who are still with us. That is my desire in writing this. Generally our view of family history is formed from what we have seen and heard from our parents, our grandparents, other members of the family and family friends.

So I invite you to come with me into this new world and hope that it will help us to rediscover our roots and thus value them more. For in learning about our forebears, we learn a bit more about ourselves and what makes us tick.

And as with any family history, the last chapter hasn't been written yet. Therefore, due to the unavailability of yet undocumented material, the history is by no means complete. But if any family member reading this history can add to it, I appreciate and welcome such additions.

# Chapter One

## Documents

It has been found that due to the illiteracy of folks, possibly including some of our family members as well, many names found in documents were written by the clergy, solicitors or other educated persons who often wrote the way a name sounded to the writer. This led to many discrepancies in the spelling of the name. The administration of common folk was a complex job performed by the clergy of the times. Many small towns could not support a church, as such, and meetings were held in various public buildings. The clergyman was given a vast territory to cover and oft times would not be able to perform weddings, baptisms, etc. immediately. This inevitably caused some concern among folks with the result that a man would take unto himself a woman and live together, until the clergy arrived to legalize the union. Children were born but not christened until much later. This often resulted in incorrect or multiple dates being attached to their certificates. Sometimes a child was listed at birth with only the father or mother's maiden name. The clergy tended to their flocks' spiritual needs but also documented events for the illiterate, helping with land papers, legal dealings, wills, etc.

In the christening and baptismal records, family surnames were written differently even in the same family, probably due to changes made by the clergy who officiated at the ceremony. It can be confusing where the birthdate was entered and the christening date was marked down without indicating which it was. Some of these services were performed shortly after birth while others were performed a considerable time later. We were also informed that occasionally when the clergy would baptize into their church, say Church of England, they would change certain dates based on the date of baptism or confirmation.

***Point of Interest** ~ It has been our experience and that of other more prolific genealogists that any attempt to define dates of births and deaths prior to a certain point becomes a matter of speculation simply due to the lack of credible records available. In our study, we have sought out and used reliable and confirmed records that are readily available - birth/christening/marriage/death records, census records, wills, etc. from a myriad of different sources on both sides of the Atlantic.*

Ken Stuart, gg grandson of Thomas and Susanna Maxted (my ggg grandparents on the Maxted side) and a "Maxted family" researcher, once remarked to me, "Don't be concerned about challenging any information. For like most humans we sometimes take things for granted or let some detail pass by. First off, family history is full of errors, innocent mistakes, and downright lies. So we try not to judge any ancestor and always try to keep a rational outlook." Helpful advice indeed!

Please note that '**Document #020 ~ the 'Caldwell/Pendlington Family Tree ~ Descendancy Chart,'** is the main point of reference throughout this entire book. Please refer to it consistently. It lists all the names and dates contained in other documents and as much information as could be included on it. See the section entitled "Sources" for other compiled documents and copies of records obtained.

Here is a list of some of the documents that we have used in this genealogical study. Please note that most of these are copies of the original documents.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
May 1850	Henry Caldwell	Ship Log: Ireland to NY
1861	Henry/Margaret Caldwell & family	CND census
8 Feb. 1879	George Wm. Pendlington	Death – County Durham
7 Apr. 1879	George Wm. Pendlington	Will/testament
5 Feb. 1881	Henry/Margaret Caldwell & family	CND census
26 May 1885	Wm. John Caldwell/Margaret P.	marriage certificate
1886	Wm. John & James Caldwell	Hamilton Directory
1887	Wm. John Caldwell	Hamilton Directory
1890	Wm. John Caldwell	Hamilton Directory
1890	Florence Pendlington	birth certificate
12 Feb. 1890	Will & Mary Lewis, Nanaimo	marriage record
3 June 1891	Wm./Mary Lewis, Nanaimo	Canadian census
1891	Sarah & Louise Caldwell, Nanaimo	CND census
11 May 1892	Mary Louisa Caldwell	birth schedule
1901	Will & Mary Lewis, Nanaimo	Canadian census
abt 1902	George R. Pilkington	Ship Log: Liverpool, UK to Montreal, Canada
2 July 1906	Henry James (Harry) Caldwell	marriage certificate
27 Dec 1929	Wm. John Caldwell	Death certificate
June 1948/Oct. 1937	Geo. Richard & Margaret Pendlington	cemetery stone
Dec. 1929/Aug. 1938	Wm. John & Margaret Caldwell	cemetery stone
3 June 1963	William Lewis, Nanaimo BC	interview – 100th birthday

# Chapter Two

## *Looking Back: The Caldwell Side – When and Where?*

Much of what we do know about the Caldwell side has come from Gramps, who was born 14 Aug 1890 as Wm. Robert Caldwell, to Wm. John and Margaret Ann (*nee Prescott*). Gramps did not share a lot about his family, however. We have learnt a lot more, thanks to other family members, [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca) and through other genealogical sources.

I had always thought that the Caldwell family came from Scotland, but apparently not ours ~ at least not unless it was prior to the early 1800s. (*see Point of Interest from the Knights of Heraldry Ltd. 1978 below.*) The grandparents of Gramps, **Henry** (b. 1827) and **Margaret** (*nee Woods*) were married at the **Presbyterian** Church in Ardstraw, County of Tyrone, N. Ireland (80 miles east of Belfast.) Ardstraw was once the seat of an important bishopric, as well as the ancient resting place of the local branch of the O'Neill clan. The minister at that time was Rev. Matthew Clarke, but their website says that they promptly had all church records burnt upon his death, including church records of marriages and baptisms. This might possibly explain why we can't find a lot of info on Henry Caldwell or his parents. Aunt Joan Costie has an embroidered picture of Henry's father William's memorial, but to date that is as far back as we have been able to trace. Henry (*my gg grandfather*) attended school at Trinity College in Dublin. According to one ship report, Henry and Margaret sailed from Ireland to Canada on the 'Odessa' and arrived in New York on 28 May 1850. Here is a report giving some of the typical shipping conditions under which Henry and Margaret sailed to Canada.

*"By the turn of the century, conditions endured by passengers on many of the incoming vessels to North American ports had improved very little since 1820 when the US Congress first began attempting to regulate such matters. Most traveled "steerage," literally the lowest decks of a vessel above the actual bilges. The accommodations were minimal at best, degrading at worst. This is a matter of record: in a report presented to a Congressional committee by the Immigration Commission, steerage conditions were described as often 'disgusting and demoralizing' ... No place was provided to store or clean eating utensils, which most passengers had to provide for themselves - continues the report, and food was often sold to the passengers by the steward for his own profit."*

They settled at Iroquois (55 miles south of Ottawa on the St. Lawrence River) and Henry was a School Master. In good weather he was a Lock Master on the river. Their first child, Margaret was born at Iroquois in 1852. From censuses records, it appears that Henry and Margaret had eight children, six girls and two boys. It is possible that two of the girls died in childhood because their names, Elizabeth and Martha, appear in the 1861 census but not the 1881 census. Three of the girls, Sarah, Mary and Louise and one of their two boys, James moved out west to Nanaimo, BC. Sarah, Mary and James moved out first in 1890 and then Louise about 1900. (*Mary and James were twins.*) Mary married William Lewis (12 Feb. 1890) who came from a coal-mining family (b. 17 July 1863, Port Wine, California.) In 1963, some of our family visited Will Lewis on his 100th birthday. He died in 1968 at 104. (*He gave an interview just prior to his 100th birthday and succeeding birthdays – see Sources.*) His wife Mary died in 1942 at age 75 and to our knowledge, they had no children. Louise never married, and Aunt Joan remembers her as "a funny old gal." Henry and Margaret were both buried at Iroquois, although they may have been moved from there. (*see Chapter Four, Aunt Joan's comments*)

**Point of Interest** ~ Longevity is a blessing granted to several of those married to the Caldwell women. William Lewis was mentioned above, who died at 104 and was married to Mary Caldwell. H. Graham Scaife (my uncle) died on 28 Mar 2015 at 101 and was married to my aunt Mabel Caldwell, the first daughter born to Nana & Gramps. My own father Jack Maxted is now in his 90th year and was married to Aunt Mabel's sister Margaret, my mother. And the list goes on. So it appears that the Caldwell women treat their menfolk very well and their children too.

Gramps' father Wm. John was born 30 June 1858 in South Mountain (14 miles north of Iroquois.) Aunt Joan remembers Gramps talking about the lacrosse games played during his father's time and how they would back up the ambulances to carry the injured players off to hospital. Great Grandpa Wm. John moved to Hamilton about the time of his marriage to Margaret Ann Prescott in May 1885. Margaret Ann was from Burlington. He was 26 years old and she was 28. (Note: My folks moved to Ottawa from Hamilton on the train in Sept 1950 when Mom was about the same age as her grandmother Margaret.)

Wm. John is listed in the 1886 Hamilton Directory as a 'moulder,' residing at 205 John Street North. His brother James is listed as a 'tailor' and boarding at the same address. James continued his trade when he moved out west to Nanaimo, BC. Wm. John was also involved with the Stelco Foundry in Hamilton, although he never worked for them. When the foundry was opened, they had to get others to come in and light the fires. John was one of those men. But he was a blacksmith by trade. Of the eight children born to Henry and Margaret, only two of them – their daughter Margaret and her brother Wm. John remained in Hamilton.

Our Gramps was the third child born to Wm. John and Margaret in Aug 1890. He had three siblings, two of whom were born before him – Margaret (Maggie) Ethel and Harry John (Henry James in some records.) Then he had one sister born almost two years after him – Mary Louise. We used to hear about 'Aunt Mary' but little about his other siblings. In any case, they married, had families and Harry moved away from Hamilton to Buffalo NY where he worked as a 'steamfitter.' (Note: A 'steamfitter' is one who installs or repairs equipment {like steam pipes} for heating, ventilating, or refrigerating systems.) Aunt Mary married Bill Champ, settled in the Hamilton area and had two boys, Bill and Donald.

Gramps only went to grade 8 in school, but he was a very knowledgeable and self-motivated individual. He also took a correspondence course from LaSalle University in Chicago and graduated high in his class. Later he was asked to become a member of the school board, and accepted. Gramps'



William John & Margaret Caldwell



Gramps - William Robert Caldwell



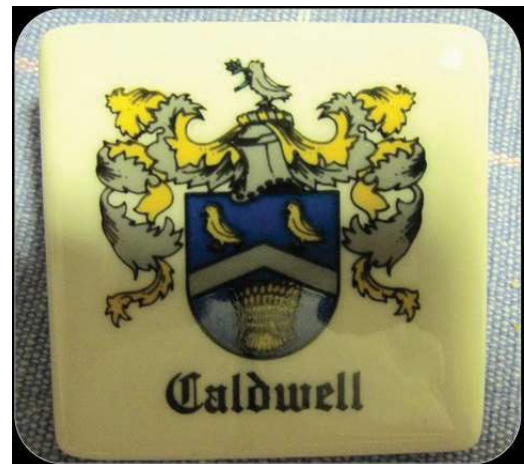
first job was with the Hamilton Cotton Mills. He then moved on to be Traffic Manager at Canadian Cannery. He began a trucking firm on behalf of Canadian Cannery named 'Walmer Transport.' He was offered the opportunity to call it 'Caldwell Lines' but declined. If the company had belonged to him he would have been a very wealthy man indeed.

He was called to Ottawa by C.D. Howe to argue cases at the Supreme Court building on behalf of traffic problems at Canadian Cannery. It was said by more than one that he was the best traffic manager in Canada. He must have been very good at his job as he won almost every case. C.D. Howe was the Minister of Transport in the government of Prime Minister Mackenzie King from 1935 to 1940. He then went on to be Minister of Trade & Commerce in the government of Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent from 1948 to 1957. Gramps' efforts on behalf of the Cannery allowed the western provinces to purchase canned goods at the same rates as the markets in Ontario and Quebec.

Gramps had to retire from the Cannery at age 65 in 1955 as it was mandatory. After retiring from the Cannery, he took some time off and then joined the Hamilton Harbor Commission as Manager of Port and Trade Development. While there, Hamilton had the largest tonnage of goods coming/or going out of any Great Lakes' port. He did a lot of travelling for the Harbor Commission during the three or four years he was working for them, and he always insisted on paying for any of Nana's expenses himself.

Gramps loved music, particularly band music. As a young man he played the tuba, sousaphone and a flat horn in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders 91st Regiment marching band. Later he became assistant band master. His love of music never diminished. (*Read further about this in Chapter Four – Family and Personal Memories.*)

**Point of Interest #1** ~ *The Scottish Clan CALDWELL is one of the oldest Scottish families and its history is closely interwoven into the rich and beautiful tapestry of the chronicles of Scotland. The Caldwell's settled in Renfrewshire at an early time and while there the first official records start in the year 1348 A.D. They are believed to be of Dalriadic origin. The Kingdom of Dalriada was the first kingdom of Scotland... The power of the Church, its assessments and tithes, and its demands on its members broke the spirit of men, who either turned from the Church, or joined it, pursuing with vigor and ferocity, the letter of the law. As a result many of the Clansmen were freely encouraged to migrate to Northern Ireland. They were given grants of land and holdings, and, being generally of Presbyterian persuasion they formed the nucleus of what is now Ulster. Many joined the militia units in Northern Ireland and a condition of land grants was to provide a certain number of fighting men to keep the peace. They also joined the Church in Ireland, perpetuating the same conflicts that had occurred in lowland Scotland. Of the 42 heads of families of Caldwell who were transplanted into Ireland between 1670 and 1750, thirty-seven of these families settled in Counties Antrim, Londonderry and **Tyrone**. Life in Ireland became little improved over what the clansmen had left on the Scottish border. Lands were granted, and then lost overnight by a careless, or sometimes well-conceived act which had gone politically astray. Economic survival was made difficult by severe rules of conduct and obligations. So they turned their attention to the New World, with its democratic way of life... Many settled in Virginia, the Carolinas and **Upper Canada**.*

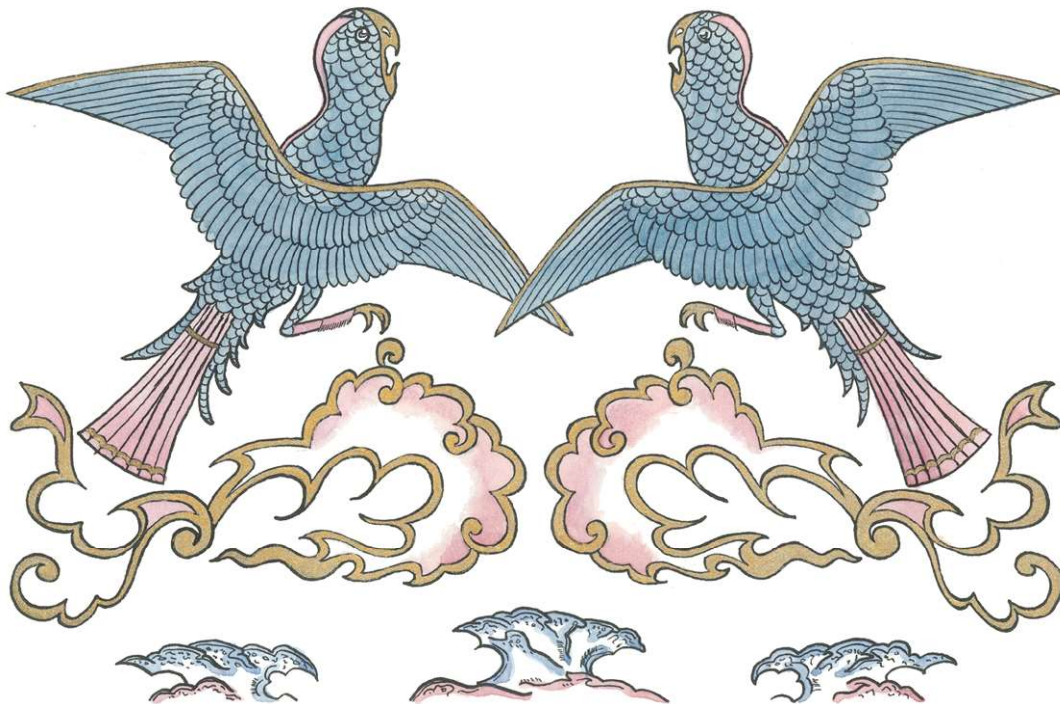


Coat of Arms

Knights of Heraldry Ltd. 1978

**Point of Interest #2** ~ The question has often been raised as to whether the original owners of the Caldwell Linen Mills, located in Iroquois ON Canada, were any relation to our family. To date, we have not been able to identify any connection unless it was back several centuries ago in Ireland or Scotland. The dates during which the originators of the Caldwell Linen Mills settled and established the mills are also different from those in which our predecessors settled in Iroquois. Henry and Margaret Caldwell settled in the Iroquois area in the early 1850s. Their son William (Gramps' father) moved to the Hamilton area in 1885. In 1901, Robert C. Caldwell emigrated from Ireland where he had trained to be a linen maker. Robert's first two business ventures in his new country failed to satisfy him. So in 1906, he boarded a train in Bracebridge in the pouring rain and the story goes that he said he would build his mill wherever it stopped raining. It was a sunny day in Iroquois. In 1907 Robert opened Dundas Linen Mill in an abandoned shoe factory. This mill had 40 looms and 70 employees and was the only existing linen mill in Canada at that time. He opened a second mill named Caldwell Linen Mill in November 1923. Robert Caldwell died in June of 1934, leaving his son H.H. Caldwell as President.

Iroquois History Souvenir Book, Cindy Ault, Editor



# Chapter Three

## *Looking Back: The Pendlington Side – When and Where?*

As with Gramps, a lot of what we know about the Pendlington family came from my mother (*Margaret*), Nana Caldwell, and her father George, affectionately known as “*Papa*.” George Richard Pendlington was born in Nov 1866 at Murton, County Durham, England to George and Margaret (nee Anderson). In fact, the George Pendlingtons went back four generations, all with the same first name. Papa was the second of six children born to George and Margaret. Two of his siblings died in their childhood, Robert A. and Sarah Isabella. His father George Wm. worked in coal mining as a “*Viewer*.” From 1849 onward, a “*Viewer*” was “*the manager of a colliery; one who had the charge of all underground, and generally, of all surface arrangements.*” He died as the result of an accident there at the young age of 37. Official records state that the administration of his will and estate was granted to a man named William Richard Cole on 07 Apr 1879. The record states that George’s occupation was that of a “*Colliery Viewer*” at “*Bebside Colliery.*” Bebside was a coal mining village located 11 miles north of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The record also states that George was of “*Cowpen*” which was a village less than a mile from Bebside. He left to grieve his wife Margaret and four children, George (*Papa*), Robert E., William and Margaret.

“*Papa*” Pendlington was a ‘*joiner*’ (or *journeyman*) at a colliery in Murton, England. (*This was written on Nana’s birth certificate.*) A ‘*journeyman*’ is an individual who has completed an apprenticeship and is fully educated in a trade or craft, but not yet a master. To become a master, a journeyman had to submit a master work piece to a guild for evaluation and be admitted to the guild as a master. A ‘*joiner*’ was an artisan who built things by joining pieces of wood, particularly lighter and more ornamental work than a carpenter, including furniture and the “*fittings*” of a house, ship, etc. Joiners would work in a workshop, because the formation of various joints were made easier by the use of non-portable, powered machinery, or at an on-job site. A joiner usually produced items such as interior and exterior doors, windows, stairs, tables, bookshelves, cabinets, furniture, etc. So it is safe to say that Papa worked with wood at the coals mines at Murton, in whatever capacity.

Papa and Nana Pendlington (*nee Bousfield*) gave birth to 3 children, of whom Nana (*Florence* or ‘*Florrie*’) was the first born (1890). Her sister Mabel was born in 1892 and another child George Ernest was born in 1894. Great Aunt Mabel married Fred Edgington and they adopted a boy named Kenneth. Alas, dear Ernest died at birth and was buried in Co. Durham, England. Although Nana Caldwell was born and brought up in England, she never went back for a visit.

The family sailed for Montreal, Canada from Liverpool, England in 1902. (*Ancestry.ca shows July 1904.*) We can only speculate as to what prompted them to emigrate, as with Henry and Margaret Caldwell mentioned previously. History tells us that a lot of British and Europeans emigrated to North America about that time in search of a better life as they knew it. Papa came first, and then the rest of the family followed. Nana Caldwell was only 12 years of age. You can imagine her feelings at



*Florence Pendlington*

leaving all she knew of home and country at the age of 12 to face a new land and a new life, albeit with her family. After emigrating to Canada, Papa renewed carpentry as a profession and word has it that he was very good at his craft. You can read about some of the family's memories of Papa in the next chapter.



*Margaret Pendlington*  
(1841 – 1918)



# Chapter Four

## *Family & Personal Memories of “Nana & Gramps”*

My mother had many happy memories of growing up in the company of Nana’s parents, particularly her Papa, as Nana Pendlington passed on when she was only 15 years of age. She had fond memories of being ‘swept up’ in the arms of Papa when they would visit. Time spent at their summer cottage at Crystal Beach was full of memories as well. (*Papa had built the cottage at Crystal Beach and it was ‘in the family’ until the early 1960s.*) I remember Mom telling me that he was a very loving man whose family meant the world to him. She recalls him singing hymns upstairs at East Ave. where he lived with Nana and Gramps Caldwell in Hamilton the last eight years of his life. Aunt Joan says that one would often hear him singing along with the radio but all you could hear was him. Mom was 25 years old when Papa passed.

I want to say just a brief word about my mother, Margaret Lorraine. If Papa was a gentleman, then I must say that Mom was a real lady in every sense of the word. She was the third of four girls born to Nana and Gramps. I could write an epistle about her, as could each of my brothers. Suffice to say we were very close in the growing up years. She would often share things with me and I felt we had a kindred spirit. She was always there for me, from the time I woke up in the morning to bedtime. She could be firm, but I never saw her lose her temper. When my mother turned 80, I wrote for my parents a testimony in their honor. Alas, she left this world 25 July 2008 at 85 years of age, but never far from our memories. (*See pictures of Mom and her family from the time she was a baby, in the DVD attached to this outline.*)



*Margaret Lorraine Maxted*

In 2014, my brother John established a Memorial Award in honor of Mom for the recognition of excellence in quality improvement endeavors led by Family Medicine residents at the Markham Family Medicine Teaching Unit. He describes Mom as a *‘quiet, gentle lady who gave expression to her passions and feelings through her art rather than her words.’* She attended the Ontario College of Art in Toronto where she met my father. So it was my mother’s creativity that inspired this Memorial Award – efforts which *‘give momentum to the changes that make our lives better.’* There is no doubt my mother instilled her creative talents in each of her five boys, though we may express them in different ways. I am privileged to have some of these artistic creations, including pencil drawings/sketches, her many recipes, and an afghan, of which she made several.

The following are memories of Aunt Joan, Robbie Scaife, Sharon Benassi and Cathy Trewartha regarding Nana & Gramps and family, as well as other points of interest.

*Papa was a very kind soul, he was exactly what you would picture when you think of a gentleman. I don't remember him speaking gruffly or doing anything untoward. I was almost a constant companion to him from about 6*