

Elsie Wilcox Roy, 90, raised in oldest hotel

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The last surviving member of the Wilcox family of Port Credit died last week. Elsie Merena Wilcox Roy, born on January 17, 1888, was raised in the old Wilcox Hotel at Front and Bay Streets in Port Credit.

Her father, Henry Horatio Wilcox, was a sailor who gave up the sea to marry Elizabeth Roberts, of the family of Lord Roberts in England.

They bought the huge old house, which had been converted to a hotel, and played host to the farmers

who brought their produce to the port to unload on the ships going up the lake. If their work in the docks wasn't finished by sundown, they unhitched their horses and stayed at the Wilcox Hotel — the only hotel in town.

Henry and Elizabeth had 10 children and Elsie Merena was the last survivor of the large family.

Elsie met the man who was to become her husband when she and her girlfriends playfully threw snowballs at him — Samuel J. Roy, a station

master from Trenton. He was standing in the station of the old Grand Trunk Railway in Port Credit.

Her father, who later worked at St. Lawrence Starch Company, died when he was hit by a train at the then-level crossing at Highway 10.

Services for Elsie Merena Wilcox-Roy, age 90, were held last Monday at Turner and Porter funeral home in Toronto. She is survived by two sons, Robert H. Roy of Toronto and Melvin J. Roy of Montreal.