

Trees of Reflection



MARY JOHNSON WRIXON

Red Oak (*Quercus Rubra*) planted in 2021

13th August 1925 – 21st March 2021

Mary, mother of Patrick Wrixon one of The Cart Shed's founders and the chairman of the charity, lived at Devereux Wootton for 14 years before moving to the nearby house at Green Farm, when the two properties were amalgamated, in 1986. She remained a partner in the family farming business until her peaceful death at Dulas Court in Ewyas Harold, Herefordshire. Patrick wrote the following tribute.



My mother's tree, a *Quercus Rubra* or Red Oak, is fitting for her extrovert, hot-blooded character.

Her father died when she was very young and given the privations of the war years, she didn't have a privileged youth, but she was incredibly resilient.

She gave up nursing to marry my father when in her early twenties and adapted to life as a farmer's wife with fortitude and resilience. She was a

wonderful cook, an enthusiastic gardener and her Aberdonian roots provided hardy genes along with a parsimonious streak that never left her.

I consider that my three siblings and I were very fortunate to have enjoyed the love and undivided attention of a mother whose overriding concern was always our welfare and happiness.

Mum was both resourceful and kind. She was also energetic and her sporting activities ranged from hockey, skiing and tennis to the more sedate activity of bridge – never fully mastering the conventions but, as ever, showing great enthusiasm.

The latter years of her life, as she grew increasingly mentally frail, were not easy, but she will always be remembered as a woman with a ready smile, a booming laugh and a huge love of family and friends.