



Sharon Haines Wood

I was born in Waterville, but we lived in the small house next to the Fire Station in the Smithfield Village with my parents Charlie and Doris (Stevens) Haines and my brother, Brian. We moved to the Fairview Farm at the top of the hill over-looking North Pond when I was 6 months old. Then my other brother Bruce was born 3 years later. The house was built by my Grandfather's Great Grandfather around 1860. I moved in the house in 2003 and I am in the 5th generation to be living in this house.

I went to Smithfield Elementary School and Skowhegan High School. When I was old enough to work in the summer, I worked at the Sun Beam Roller Rink in the food shack for Lloyd and Vivian Ireland. When I was able to drive, I was offered a job at Pine Tree Camp doing laundry, where my grandfather Ernest Stevens was the head carpenter. This was in the 60's when I had to wash, rinse and hang the clothes outside. Then fold it all and get it back to the attendees the same day.

Eventually, someone donated money for washing machines and a dryer. I was so thankful!! One of the best things at Camp was the great food – morning and lunch!

I met my husband at the Roller Rink – Alan Wood from Rome. We were married in 1967 at the Smithfield Baptist Church and celebrated at the Grange. We moved to Winslow and had two children – Melissa Jo and Randall Alan. Both graduated from Winslow High School.

I trained as an X-ray Technician at Augusta General Hospital and worked there for a few months. I worked at the TB Sanitarium in Fairfield for 3 -4 years. The Sanitarium closed and I was offered work at the Augusta Mental Health Institute as the head of the X-ray Department. The patient numbers were getting smaller, so the X-ray and Lab departments were both closed. I had worked there for 20 years. Then I was offered a job doing Disability Claims for the State of Maine. I worked there for about 10 years and decided I was ready to retire.

My husband bought an auto repair garage in Waterville in 1984. Our son Randy worked with him after high school. I did the bookkeeping and office work. In 1994, Alan at the age of 46, went hunting in a boat in Freedom with 2 friends. They were hunting for Geese. Alan was killed by a young hunter who said he was shooting at deer. The State took him to trial, but nothing was done. Randy and I continued to work at the station for several years. He and his wife Gayle now own the garage, and their son Dalton works with them.

In 2002, my mother passed away in Smithfield. I sold my house in Winslow and started remodeling the Farmhouse which was finished in July, 2003. The first thing I did was join the Firemen's Auxiliary. My mother always supported them. Especially the annual chicken barbecues at the fire station and is still known of a special carrot salad that is still served in town. Her name was placed on the rescue vehicle in memory of her.

I attended the Smithfield Church when I was young. I became a member of the Smithfield Church when I came back to Smithfield and was Baptized by Bert Brewster at Carol Rasmussen's camp on East Pond. I have become a Deacon of the Church and help with summer suppers. Summer people find them to be the best around!!

I also joined the Smithfield Christmas Club. We gathered once a month and we worked on various items. Our biggest work was items for town children at Christmas. Books were always loved, knit items and always some candy. I have helped mainly in the winter with the Food Cupboard and Tags from the Christmas Tree.

I belong to the Smithfield Maine Historical Society. I am a Charter Member and was the Secretary for many years. Many summer visitors love the history here and contribute items to be seen. The building is open in the summer April to end of October on Wednesdays 4 to 7 PM. There is a sign at the building that tells when a meeting will be held.

I joined Fairview Grange in 2006. I first took the office of Lecturer and then Secretary. I recently gave up the office this past year. I still attend all the meetings I can. I received the Citizens Award at the Firemen's luncheon during the Leap Year celebration. Rick Watson, Master of the Grange, presented me the award. The only words I can still say are "Thank You"

One day my partner, Phil, and I drove through Abbott Village, and we noticed that there were beautiful flags throughout the town. We stopped and got information at the town office and got good information. There was a Veteran in Bangor, Galen Cole, who owned Cole Land Transportation Museum. Their family had an American Flag Program and offered to donate 24 flags to “Communities With Pride.” I spoke to Richard Witham about the program and all those at the Grange were in favor. Many members gave money to get enough flags. Our Firemen put all the poles and flags up in the spring and take them down in the fall so they can be cleaned. The fireman are a great help for us.

My brother Brian and his wife Almeda live in our passed Grandparents home, Ernest and Stella Stevens, next door to me. My son Randy and wife Gayle built a home across from me and raised their boys Alan and Dalton in Smithfield. My daughter Melissa has always wanted to live in Smithfield. Bob and Olive Corson built a home across from us quite some time ago. Aunt Olive was pleased that Melissa and Scott purchased her home. Rob Corson, their son, lives in a cozy home in the field closer to the lake that he and his Dad built. My grandchildren: Nicole and Tyler live in Hollis and Brandon lives in Philadelphia. Alan and Cassidy have a beautiful home in Turner and come to visit Smithfield often. Dalton and Jordyn also built a beautiful home lower in the area to the lake beyond Randy’s home. My special joy is that I am now a Great Grandmother to a baby boy Hudson, who was born in July. How much more can anyone be so fortunate to have most of your family this close by!!!!

