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Margaret Jane Isabel Alison Armstrong Earl – (1914– 1999)

Jane Armstrong Earl was born and grew up in Toronto. She attended St. Clement's School there. Her father, Samuel A. Armstrong, a successful lawyer and later, pump manufacturer, lost his wife and Jane's mother, while she was a young child. Jane spent many happy childhood times with her aunts in the Sarnia area as a result.

Jane possessed a keen interest in journalism from an early age. After leaving St. Clement's and a Barrie Ontario Boarding school, she took an advertising job with the "Mail and Empire", the forerunner of the "Globe and Mail," as a way to break into reporting. Her eventual career in journalism would span a period from the thirties to the eighties, culminating in her achieving the distinction of being one of only two female war correspondents. She worked in Canada, the U.S. and Great Britain writing for newspapers and magazines..

During the Second World War she worked alongside her future husband, Lawrence Earl, who also was a war correspondent and author of over a dozen books. He won The Stephen Leacock Award for Humour for "The Battle of Baltinglass." His book, "Yangtze Incident", a true story, was later made into a movie starring Richard Todd. Her career included time on staff of The Toronto Telegram, The Montreal Standard and The Toronto Star .Her daily column "Between You and Me" related personal stories behind the front page news. She lived and worked through the London blitz and also reported from the continent. Marrying in 1943, they eventually worked as a freelance



team for such publications as the British magazine "Illustrated" . Interviewing the first King of Italy after Mussolini and Queen Juliana of The Netherlands were highlights of their joint careers. Later she covered the British House of Commons.

When Jane passed away at age 84, "The National Post", in an extensive story, wrote, " The story of her life reads like a movie script about women in the newspaper business in the 1940's, including a newsroom romance with a happy ending.....She was an independent newspaper woman and one of the first in Canada to break from the ghetto of the women's page to the front page."



The Earls maintained contact with Canada over their fifty years in London, returning each summer to Lawrence's family home on Grand Bay, near Saint John, N.B. Salmon fishing was a favorite sport of the couple, both on The Miramichi and in Scotland. In later years, the Earls settled permanently in Grand Bay-Westfield. Lawrence Earl has established the Jane Armstrong Earl Fund with The Greater Saint John Community Foundation in her memory and to recognize her accomplishments.