

THE EVER-CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF BEZANSON

A unique, perfectly-manicured hedge in the Hamlet of Bezanson, was always an attraction that drew attention to the couple who lived there – **Irving, better known as Tyke, and Allie (nee Olson) Ames.**

Tyke, born in Bezanson in 1928, was the youngest of George and Thelma Ames' five children. George, originally from Brookdale, Manitoba decided to move to the Peace District to file a homestead application on land in the Bezanson area. The family lived on the homestead at Bezanson continuously except for a short period of time when they operated the Ferry Inn at the Smoky River Crossing. Tyke attended the Lindsay One-Room School following which he worked on the family farm and was employed by Park Brothers for 14 years before taking on a welding position for the County of Grande Prairie.



In 1952, Tyke married Allie Olson who was the youngest in Alfred and Inga's family of seven children. Alfred was born in Sweden, immigrated to the USA following which he decided to seek his fortune in the Peace District settling in the Glen Leslie area where he met and married Inga Bredeson.

Tyke and Allie had four girls; Louise, Bev, Irene and Colleen. Allie was an accomplished seamstress; sewing numerous wedding dresses, regular dresses, coats and clothes not only for her own family but also for many people in the Community. She also excelled in a wide range of activities such as crocheting, baking, needlepoint, moose-hair tufting, and gardening. Tyke was an avid horseshoe player and also played on the Bezanson Eagles Baseball Team where he was known for his expertise at playing short-stop. He also loved to hunt, and was interested in hockey and curling.

Tyke and Allie were also known for their dancing skills – executing their "Old Time Waltz" moves effortlessly. Tyke passed away in 2014 and Allie in 2021. Both are buried at the Glen Leslie Cemetery.



As time goes by and ownership of properties change, you will find that landscape will change as well and we all must make a concerted effort to embrace the change.

Written by Wanda Zenner – September 2023
Photos by Carol Sorensen & Irene Stark
Reference:
Allie Ames Obit
Smoky to Grande Prairie History Book
Carol Sorensen

The author of this article was fortunate enough to have Allie sew some important dresses for her most notably being her College Grad dress.