

Marlene Aubrey

**CiB Volunteer
Floral Designer**



Marlene grew up in a time when people took pride in their open spaces and homes. As a child her grandmother was quick to bring nature's beauty inside and display the ambrosia smells and splashes of colour in many of her home's rooms. Like comfort food, the floral displays lent to a gentle time and solace.

Marlene has always been keen to have things grow in her immediate areas, as a 45+ year cattle, grain and grasses farmer, it has always been a balancing act for weather, need and conservation of resources to plan a year of production.

Love for the efforts and final product lead to a home based floral shop. Through the birth of need, "Marlene's Flowers" was born. For many years Marlene became the "go to" in her rural northern Alberta community for exotic and "down home" wedding and party designs.

Design courses and competitions were excitingly entered for many years. Olds College Floral Design Program was an incredible tool in learning the basics of design, composition and structure.

Now retired, Marlene and her husband continue with their love of gardening and although not "hard core farmers" have a small greenhouse for seasonal vegetables and fruits as well as burgeoning garlic test plot of 1600+ plants in 11 varieties specific for our central Alberta area this year and plan to reach 5000 in the near future.

Marlene is an active community volunteer with Didsbury Communities in Bloom as well as Didsbury & District Chamber of Commerce.