

Françoise Michaud Dufresne (1923 - 2008)

Born in Montreal on May 22, 1923, Françoise Michaud studied at Sainte-Anne College in Lachine. In 1944, she married Maurice Dufresne with whom she had seven children.

She joined the *Société généalogique canadienne-française* en 1960, and for the next thirty years, she explored the trove of Québec archives in order to document Pierre Micheau and his descendants' lives. She settled in Kamouraska in the early 1980's, and went on some dozen research voyages in Poitou (Vendée) and La Rochelle, where she developed several lasting friendships.

Biographer of Pierre Micheau, president of the *Association des Familles Michaud inc.* from 1994 to 1997 and editor of *Le Brelan* from de 1991 à 1998, Françoise was the architect of the bridging between the Michaud families of America and France.

Jean-Paul Michaud

Jean-Paul Michaud was born on January 23, 1943, in St. Agatha, Maine. He graduated from the University of Maine at Fort Kent and did graduate studies in library science at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge.

Upon graduation, he worked at the New York Public Library. His life-long interest in genealogy was encouraged by his meeting Françoise Michaud Dufresne in the late 1980's. Their friendship resulted in producing this English language translation of Pierre Micheau.

Jean-Paul, now retired, continues to live in Brooklyn and to spend summers in Maine.

This narrative traces the footsteps of the ancestor Pierre Micheau (1637-1702). Sailing from his native Poitou for Québec in 1656, Pierre Micheau cleared what was to be his first settlement on Côte de Beaupré. In 1663, with his wife Marie Ancelin, he settled in Saint-Jean de l'Île d'Orléans, and again in 1672, at Isle-aux-Grues. Ten years later, Marie and Pierre settled at Rivière-des-Trois-Saumons and, in 1692, made their final move to Kamouraska, where many of their descendants live to this day.

The Michaud ancestor's story transports us to the heart of 17th Century New France and enables us to appreciate the hopes and joys and also the challenges faced by the men and women who built our nation.

