IN MEMORIAM

THE 34TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE

JUNE 14, 2018 | REDLANDS, CA | RESIDENT BISHOP GRANT J. HAGIYA
Dear Loving Members of our Cal-Pac Family:

A few months ago, our family lost the last surviving sister of my parents’ generation. My Aunt was a loving and joyous person, and I grieve with my cousins over her earthly death. It also marks the passing of a whole generation on my Dad’s side of the family. Because of this, there is a deeper sense of loss for our whole family.

So, too, I understand the depth of your loss, and words are so inadequate to convey these feelings of empathy. In so many ways, your beloved has been an important part of our own California-Pacific Conference family, and we share in your grief and loss.

Our 2018 annual conference theme of “Thirst No More” speaks to the eternal reality of Jesus Christ, who comes to give life, and especially eternal life. We will see each other again, and we will all be reunited when we pass through this thin veil of death to life eternal.

Blessings,

Bishop Grant
Deceased Bishops

Bishop John Wesley Hardt
June 18, 2017

Bishop Rüdiger Minor
September 3, 2017

Bishop Bevel L. Jones III
March 6, 2018

Deceased Spouses

Angelina Nacpil
August 8, 2017

Dorothy Lee
August 29, 2017

Jean Stockton
November 11, 2017

Lucile Elizabeth Wheatley
November 23, 2017

Jewell Blackburn
March 8, 2018
Ordained and Diaconal Ministers
Esteban Cruz Calma was born in San Luis, Pampanga, Philippines. He graduated high school from the Baliwag Institute in 1950. He then continued his education at the Union Theological Seminary in 1951. While he was a student, he started working as a part-time local pastor at Bugion UMC in Bulacan in 1952, then became a full-time local pastor at San Miguel UMC, then transferred to Polo UMC. Thereafter, he has transferred again to Calizon-Calumpit UMC, Bulacan in 1957 to 1961.

Esteban was ordained as an Elder by Bishop Valencia at the Philippine Annual Conference. He met his wife, Fe Gamo, while she was working at the headquarters of UMC in Manila. He received his Bachelor of Theology degree in 1959. On February 4, 1961, Esteban and Fe married. They started their ministry at Good Samaritan UMC, Quezon City from 1961 to 1967. In 1962, Deborah “Debbie” and in 1963, Dorcas were born.

He left in 1967 to further his education at the Asbury Theology Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky and completed his M.Div. in 1970. At this time Denise was born. He came back to the Philippines in 1971 where he was appointed at Tangos UMC, Manila; then in 1972, he was appointed at St. John’s UMC in Quezon City, Manila; then in 1974, he returned to the United States by adding an M.A. in Missions at Fuller Theological Seminary. While a student at Fuller, he was also a pastor at Rosewood UMC. In 1977, his membership was transferred to the California-Pacific Annual Conference. While at Baldwin Park UMC, he organized a fellowship of ministers of all denominations and was recognized in 1982 as the most inclusive church in the Conference. He experienced a stroke in 1992. He was able to recover and continued his ministry at San Dimas UMC where he retired.

As a retired minister, he lived with his wife at Baker Homes. He enjoyed traveling and babysitting the grandchildren. He continued to be active with the church by being involved with the Filipino Caucus of the Conference, attending First Filipino American UMC of San Gabriel Valley and Covina UMC where he was the Tagalog Sunday School Teacher.

Esteban was survived by his wife of 56 years, three daughters with their spouses, Ricky & Debbie Calma-Quon; Dorcas Calma-Graza; and Chris & Denise Calma-Modrzejewski; and seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

~Debbie Calma Quon
Fred Erwin Jr.

July 12, 1957 - March 27, 2018

ERWIN JR., FRED L. (P.83; F.86) PSW 83 School; 84 LA: La Plaza, Assoc; C-P 85 Glendale: Wesley; 90 Descanso; 91 LA: La Tijera; 2001 S/L; 02 Northridge, Assoc; 02 (Sep 1) Moorpark; 03 (Mar 15) I/L; 2007 Retired

Fred was courageous and present. When he was with you, that's all that mattered. He had integrity, wisdom, strength, and humor. He was so funny! I loved his impish nature and his loving spirit. He went through struggles in his life, but they didn't affect who he was. He remained true and genuine and exceedingly generous. It is an understatement to say that there was no one like him.

Janet Gollery McKeithen

Fred was a wonderful friend and good companion. He engaged his battles with dignity, love, and presence and always shared the wisdom gained. He lived his vision of inclusion of all beings with patience and compassion, calling out wrong and standing up for the common good.

Debra Cohn

Fred was a colleague at the Aleph Center and such a kind, caring, compassionate, and exceptional therapist and friend. He brought humor to our work days and a listening ear during moments of collaboration. He was a gifted therapist who cared deeply for his clients and a dear friend who cared for each member of the staff and therapeutic team. We miss him dearly and will remember him always.

Shannon Petrovich

Fred was my therapist, so I had one of those unusual relationships in which he knew more about me than any other person in the world but I knew almost nothing about his life. I do know what kind of person he was. He was easily the kindest person I ever met, full of love and generosity, and compassion. He constantly challenged me to reframe my view of a situation or emotion and insisted that I see it from a different perspective. Fred was the constant, steady source of encouragement and vision of what my future could hold.

Richard Grisham

Memories of Fred are indelible. When my wife and I were preparing a move from southern California to Canada, Fred hosted a going away dinner party. It was extravagant. A pianist hired from the nearby Nordstrom's tinkled the keys as we all arrived. The menu, printed, included "a salad of edible flowers." The dinner was amazing. It was the kind of generous gesture for which he has long been known. We cherished our friendship with him and know that our lives were richer and fuller as a result of his life. We offer our deepest condolences to his family, and to all who loved him. They are also many.

Jonathan Chute
Ed was born in Wynonana, Oklahoma and grew up in Kansas. At the age of 17, he enlisted in the US Coast Guard and, after boot camp, was assigned to the US Leonard Wood. There were 1,200 Marines aboard prepared for the invasion of Japan, but a few days before the planned invasion, Japan surrendered.

God had a plan for Ed’s life. After the war he attended Kansas University and received his B.S. in Pharmacy.

In May of 1951 Ed was blessed to meet the love of his life, Marilyn and they were married in August of 1951.

In 1956 Ed & Marilyn were blessed with a daughter Cynthia LuAnn (David Paulec). In 1958, a son Michael Edward was born. He died in 2013. In 1962 son Scott Alan was born and lives in Sierra Vista.

While being active at Tucson: Christ Methodist Church, Ed became a Lay Preacher and preached at several churches. Ed felt God was calling him to the ministry. He packed up the family and moved to Washington, DC, and entered Wesley Seminary. After receiving his M.Div., he was appointed to Sierra Vista United Methodist Church in June 1969.

Ed retired from the ministry and they moved back to Sierra Vista. This is where Ed returned to practicing pharmacy until 2010 while also serving part time as minister at Bisbee Trinity United Methodist Church in Warren.

Reverend Ed is survived by his wife Marilyn of 66 years, daughter Cynthia, and son Scott, 12 grandchildren (Lee, deceased in 2005) and 13 great grandchildren. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend, and confidant.

Ed was kind, loving caring and spent hours listening and helping people in their time of need. Edward lived a full and good life. He loved service through Rotary clubs and served as the president two times.

He also had the opportunity to serve as the Chaplain aboard the cruise ship line Holland America and he and Marilyn enjoyed visiting many countries. He dedicated himself to family and service to the Lord. He lived by the motto “Service above self.” He loved, hugged and cared for others and will be missed by everyone whose life he touched. Our thanks go out to Solace Place, Casa de la Paz, Jensen's Mortuary and many friends and relatives for their kindness, caring and love.

He will be missed by all that knew him.

~Mrs. Marilyn Galyon
Russell W. Hafner was born on Valentine's Day at the family farm in Burr Oak, Kansas. During his childhood and adolescence, he alternated between Kansas and Riverside, California, where he attended Grace Methodist. He fought in the Pacific theater during WWII as part of the Signal Corps, witnessing many deaths. After the war, he worked for the U.S. Postal Service before enrolling at the University of Redlands in 1950. He did his graduate work at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

Russ and Valorie Dierks of Iowa City, Iowa were married in 1951 and served churches in Iowa before joining the Southern California-Arizona Conference. Their first appointment was to Muscoy, followed by Ocean Park, Highland Park, Hollywood and Pacific Palisades. Russ also served as Youth Director for the Los Angeles District. In 1985, Russ retired from the Conference and took a social work position with Los Angeles County.

Russ had a deep sense of social justice and wanted to make a difference in creating a better world. He also had a gracious and caring spirit and modeled the redemptive love of Christ to everyone he encountered.

His beloved Valorie went home to be with the Lord in 2008 and Russ eagerly anticipated being reunited with her in heaven. He is survived by sons Bradley of Moreno Valley, California, and Ronald of Temecula, California, and daughter, Laura Oakes of Cypress, California, six grandchildren, and four (soon to be five) great-grandchildren.

~Bradley S. Hafner
HIBBARD, MARY L. (DM.78; FD.98) PSW 78 Anaheim: United, Director of Christian Education, 84 Anaheim: United, Program Director & Director of Christian Education; C-P 85 Anaheim: United, Program Director & Director of Christian Education; 98 Anaheim: United, Minister of Church Program; 2005 Retired

Mary Louise Hibbard was born to Warren J. and Bette J. (Krainik) Hibbard in Lodi, Wisconsin. She graduated from Lodi High School in 1959 and from the University of Wisconsin Madison in 1963, after which she taught 7th-grade English and speech therapy in Lodi public schools from 1963-1969. During this time Mary was active in the Lodi Methodist Church playing piano, teaching Sunday School, and directing the children’s choirs. She also worked at the Lodi Library.

In 1969 she moved to Anaheim, California, where she taught kindergarten in the Anaheim City School District from 1969-1973. Having earned an M.A. in Christian Education from Claremont School of Theology in 1975, she then began serving as Diaconal Minister at Anaheim United Methodist Church, working with youth, community social services, and seniors until 2005.

She became President of the Anaheim Human Services Network in 1987 as plans for a homeless shelter were underway. In 1989 she was named Outstanding Volunteer by the Volunteer Center of Orange County (North) for Administrative Leadership for her service on the board that ran the Anaheim Interfaith Halcyon Shelter (now Via Esperanza, Pathways of Hope).

Mary served as a member of the AAUW Anaheim and Iris Professional Women’s Organization, President of the Anaheim Human Services Network, President of the Iris Professional Auxiliary-Assistance League of Anaheim. She was also a member of the Anaheim Arts Council, Anaheim Beautiful and Anaheim Community Services Board, and served on the Anaheim Library Commission. Following her retirement from AUMC she served at Fullerton United Methodist Church and organized outings for seniors.

She is survived by her half-sister Emily (Ken) Nietering of Dearborn, Michigan; uncle and aunt Tom and June Krainik of Medford, New Jersey; nephews Nathan (Kristen) Nietering, Eric (Allisondra) Nietering and Kevin (Breanne) Nietering; half-brothers Warren, Douglas, and Rick Hibbard as well as numerous cousins.

In memory and great gratitude for the life of Mary Hibbard let us continue to live out the mission of love, service, and justice that she taught us in both her words and actions.

~The Family
Osmond Lindo, Sr.
February 28, 1941 – January 12, 2018

LINDO SR., OSMOND A. (P.79; F.81) PSW 77 (SD: Chollas View); 79 SD: Chollas View; 84 LA: Vermont Square; C-P 85; 90 LA: St. Mark’s. 94 LA: Wilshire; 95 Long Beach District Superintendent; 2002 Mission Viejo: Shepherd of the Hills; 05 Orange: First; 2008 Retired

The Reverend Dr. Osmond Alford Lindo, Sr. was born to Cislyn Teresa Coke Lindo and Dudley Vansbuliscraft Lindo in the city of Colon, Republic of Panama. He was the last of five children, his father passing when he was just four years old. Reverend Mr. Lindo served as a pastor of the United Methodist Church for 43 years as a missionary, pastor, and district superintendent. After graduating from the United Theological College of the West Indies in Jamaica, he served in Frankfield in the parish of Clarendon, Jamaica, before going as a short-term missionary to the Valiente Indian Mission in the Republic of Panama. He was later appointed a Superintendent Minister in Port Limon, Costa Rica.

In 1973, Osmond with his wife, Miriam B. Lindo, immigrated to the United States to study at the Perkins School of Theology where he earned a Masters of Theology and a Doctor of Ministry in Theology and Counseling Degrees. He served as pastor of churches in the California-Pacific Annual Conference and as a District Superintendent in Long Beach for seven years, two years as Dean of the Bishop’s Cabinet. During his time in ministry, Osmond had the great pleasure of preaching near and far in places like South Korea and Hawaii.

Upon formal retirement from the ministry, Osmond and Miriam moved to Texas to be close to their daughter and help care for their three granddaughters, Milan, Sienna and Autumn. Additionally, in retirement he spent his days writing a blog for the Dr. Lindo’s Pastoral Ministry website, gardening, and cooking new and favorite recipes for his family.

Osmond fought a long and arduous battle with cancer the same way he lived: with faith, courage and vigor. He is preceded proceeds in death by his parents and parents-in-law, his brother Ralph “Billy” Lindo, his sister Norma I. Lindo Flemings and a host of colleagues, mentors and friends in ministry. He is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Miriam B. Lindo; elder son, Dr. Osmond A. Lindo, Jr.; daughter, Anastasia B. Lindo Anderson and son-in-law, Daix D. Anderson; youngest son, John A. Lindo and daughter-in-law, Dr. Endia A. Lindo; elder sisters Lilith C. Lindo McNally and Sylvia V. Lindo Lawrence and sister-in-law Leticia Blackburn as well as an abundance of nieces, nephews and cousins.

In loving memory, Miriam B. Lindo, Wife
Dr. Osmond A. Lindo, Jr., son
Anastasia Lindo Anderson, daughter
John A. Lindo, son
Joey McDonald was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The family of seven moved to Winsted, Connecticut, when he was three then to Garden Grove, California, when he was six. He was the youngest of five children – Mickie, Tom, Peggy, Kimberley. Sadly, both his mother and father, Mary and Charles, as well as his sister Mickie and brother Tom, preceded him in death.

He was a loving and faithful husband to Sue for nearly 41 years. He was a devoted father to his sons Aaron and Ian.

He was our family’s “holy man.” He married brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews. He baptized our children, and he buried some of us. He guided us through life’s crises and occasional lapses of faith.

He earned an Associate’s degree from Santa Ana Community College, a B.A. from University of California at Fullerton, masters and doctorate degrees from Claremont School of Theology. He was ordained Elder in the California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church. He often said that being a United Methodist Pastor was the only thing he ever wanted to do.

Throughout his ministry, there were two constants. First, he preached the Good News in terms of grace and hope in all his sermons. He wrote that we could live in hope or fear, but he chose to live in hope because it was stronger. Second, he believed in the strength and ministry of the laity. He knew the future of the churches he served was not based on his personality, but the hard-working congregants. His vision was to build the congregation by blending ages, genders, cultures, experience levels, so they could carry on the ministry of the church with or without him.

He also believed that loyalty was the highest spiritual value. He had a lasting impact on his friends, colleagues and parishioners. He was interested in what they did, how they were, and what they thought and believed. He might not have agreed with them but he didn’t try to change their minds – he agreed to disagree.

He will be remembered as the pony-tailed, Porsche-driving minister who was humble, tender-hearted and who strove to see God’s glory in everyone he met.

~Sue McDonald
Glen Murray

January 22, 1935 - April 13, 2018

MURRAY, GLEN R. (AM 86) C-P 86 Hilo; 95 Aiea; 2000 Retired

Glen Murray was born and raised on a farm near McMinnville, Oregon. He graduated from Willamette University in Salem. He married Shirley Witters in 1956. After graduation, he attended Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas. He was drafted into the Army in 1959 and stationed in Hawai‘i for two years. While there, their first son, Mark, was born. Glen and Shirley hoped to stay in Hawai‘i, but there were no openings in the church at that time. They moved to Palo Alto, CA., where Glen was on the staff at Palo Alto Methodist. When a position opened, they moved back to Hawai‘i as missionaries and had two more sons, Michael and Erik. Later, their only grandchild, Kaipoi‘i, was born there also.

Glen served on the staff at Palolo U.M.C. in Honolulu until being appointed to the Conference Program staff as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries based in Hawai‘i. Following that, he moved to San Diego and was on the staff at St. Mark's UMC until returning to Hawai‘i in 1985 as senior pastor in Hilo. During the 10 years there he was active in many community programs, including being president of the Hospice Board. His final appointment in Hawai‘i was as senior pastor of Aiea U.M.C. before retiring in 2000 and moving to Oro Valley, Arizona. In 2015 Glen and Shirley moved to The Fountains, an independent living senior community in Tucson.

Glen had a strong interest in developing the youth programs in each of the places he served. He enjoyed being involved with the youth including leading work teams and camps on the local, district, and conference levels. Another interest was in sports and he supported the local teams wherever he lived.

He organized many adult Christian tour groups in his last years of ministry and, after retirement, traveling to countries around the world. He and Shirley continued to travel on their own also. They visited each of the 50 states and over 65 foreign countries, some for multiple times.

Aloha no ia mau la o na mahahiki he kanaono kumakahi i kunewa akula!

~Shirley Murray
“God is steadfast!”
“God is good!”
“Do not sing for yourself; let your work sing for you!”

Rev. Dae Hee Park was born in the northern countryside of Seoul. He spent his childhood and youth under the Japanese colonial rule of Korea. As he moved onto the Methodist Seminary in Seoul in early adulthood, he recognized the value of self-determination and education as a way of achieving true liberation. He devoted much of his twenties in revitalizing the minds and souls of the countryside youth and young adults in Goyang District in Gyeonggi Province. He started the Shindo Methodist Church and served the congregation for 11 years before moving to the Wesley Theological Seminary as a Crusade scholar in 1959.

Rev. Dae Hee Park while serving Christ UMC he worked tirelessly not only in ministering to the congregation, but also for the betterment of the entire Korean-American community in Hawaii. The Christ United Methodist Church had a vision statement by its front entrance:

The church is a heart of history.
The church is hands and feet for a community.
The church is not a building, but all of us.

Rev. Dae Hee Park moved to Robertson Korean UMC. Through a long-range planning and visioning, he led the congregation to relocate near the major intersection of La Tijera Boulevard and Hwy 405. He led the National Association of the Korean-American United Methodist Churches from 1986-1988. Under the slogan of “500 churches, 100,000 members,” he focused on strengthening and developing ministries nationwide by bringing leaders of the UMC boards and agencies, together with pastoral and lay leaders for dialogue, visioning, and empowerment.

He retired from the active, but his ministry continued on. He served a few start-up congregations on temporary basis. In 1993, he started a scholarship drive for the Wesley Theological Seminary. He helped in raising over $4 million for the Seminary, and also $1.5 million for the Claremont Theological Seminary. This remarkable achievement is, indeed, a testament to his life-long commitment to cultivating future leaders for the United Methodist Church.

Rev. Dae Hee Park lived 93 years with us as a true Wesleyan pursuing holiness of heart and life. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mrs. Sung Sook Park.

~The Rev. Daniel Yongkak Shin
John Wesley Robb died Seattle at age 98. Wes was born in Los Angeles to Edgar M. Robb and Alta Boger Robb. His father was a Free Methodist Minister and his mother had been a college teacher of Latin and Greek. Wes attended Los Angeles Pacific College where he met his future wife, Ethel Edna Tosh. He graduated in 1941 from Greenville College, Illinois. Wes and Ethel married on June 13, 1942 and enjoyed 64 years together until her death in 2006.

Wes received a Master of Theology from the University of Southern California (USC) in 1945 and served as a Chaplain in the U.S. Navy 1945-47 and 1952-54. Wes taught at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, 1948-1951. In 1952, he earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy at USC and joined the Department of Religion faculty at USC in 1954, where he taught until his retirement in 1987. Following retirement, he was named Distinguished Emeritus Professor of Religion and Emeritus Adjunct Professor of Medicine (Bioethics).

In the early 40s while he was still in graduate school, Wes served as student pastor of Free Methodist Churches in Orange and Santa Ana, California. Wes and Ethel joined the Methodist Church when they moved to Carlisle, Pennsylvania. In 1950, Wes was accepted and recognized as an Elder by the Central Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. He transferred to the California-Pacific Conference in 1954. Although Wes never served a United Methodist congregation, he had a significant pastoral role at USC: he counseled an untold number of students and faculty; officiated at numerous weddings and funerals; and preached and lectured at local churches of many denominations.

During his 33 years at USC, Wes was an admired teacher and mentor, twice receiving the Award for Excellence of Teaching. He was awarded Doctor of Humane Letters (Honorary) by Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in 1977. Wes and Ethel moved to Seattle in 1991 to be close to family. In Seattle, he volunteered on ethics committees at the University of Washington, Swedish Medical Center, and Northwest Hospital.

Wes is survived by daughters Lydia J. Robb and Judith Robb Eggerman (James Eggerman); grandchildren Todd Elliott, Amy Elliott (Matt Drenth), and Julia Eggerman; great-grandchildren Alex, Caroline, and Thomas Drenth; and many nephews, nieces, and cousins.

~Judith Robb Eggerman
Frank Delano Sablan was born on the island of Guam, to Rev. Dr. Joaquin and Beatrice Sablan. His birth was a difficult one as Guam was under occupation by Japanese Imperial forces at the time. But Frank’s experience as an infant clasped to his Mother’s breast while his parents shepherded their family on the march to concentration camp would be an integral part of who he would become. During the occupation it was by Imperial order that all children were given local names, no “western” names were to be used. In defiance to that order Rev. Joaquin Sablan named his son after the President of the United States.

Frank graduated from Oakland City University and went on to earn his Master of Music from Indiana State University and his Master of Divinity from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Frank began ministry (General Baptist) in 1966 while teaching at the University of Guam in the Music Department. Later he brought his family to Indiana and began serving the Southern Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1979.

When his beloved granddaughter was born in 2002, Frank moved to Southern California to be closer to family and was appointed to churches in the California-Pacific Annual Conference. He served on several national committees while appointed in the Conference.

In addition to spending time with family, one of Frank’s joys was riding his motorcycle. He frequently rode across the entire Continental United States, including to Alaska via the Al-Can Highway, making friends everywhere he traveled.

Frank is survived by his sisters Irene Ballinger and Polly Sablan, his sons Jon Sablan and Michael Sablan, granddaughter Brynn Sablan, sister-in-law Mary Ann Sablan, uncles and aunts, nieces and nephews, and numerous cousins.

Throughout his ministry Frank shepherded his congregations on a personal level. During his funeral at Broadway UMC in Indianapolis September 7, 2017, several parishioners shared that when they arrived at the hospital for their surgery, Rev. Frank was already there waiting. He often drove parishioners hundreds of miles to be with dying family members, brought them home from the hospital, or picked them up if they were stranded at an airport.

Before commencing each hospital visit, Frank’s tradition was to pause in his car and pray. That is how he passed from this life into the next, praying for someone else, serving the God he loved.

~Polly Sablan
Charles Simmons
March 13, 1930 - January 30, 2018

Charles (“Chuck”) Simmons served as a United Methodist pastor for 42 years. A native of Riverside, he attended Redlands University. It was there he met Jeannette Reed, who he married in 1952, the year of his graduation. The couple moved to Boston, where Charles attended Boston University School of Theology.

After graduation his first church was in Ridgecrest, California. He then served pastorates in Altadena, where he was actively involved in fair housing efforts and served as the denominations district secretary of Christian Social Concerns.

In West Covina he served as district secretary of Missions and was vice president of the Conference Board of Missions. He chaired the Ministerial Association and was a board member of Community Health Projects, Inc.

His next appointment was Ventura: First. He served a term as president of the Ministerial Association, was a member of the Ventura College Advisory Board on drug and alcohol studies, and served on the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

In June 1983, Charles returned to the city of his birth to serve five years as the Riverside District Superintendent.

In 1984, Charles led a group of pastors on a missionary visitation to West Africa. Three years later he went to Korea with colleagues on the bishop’s cabinet. He was one of 11 pastors from the conference elected as a delegate to the 1988 General Conference of the United Methodist Church. He served on the legislative committee that submitted the final review of the new hymnal. Bishop Jack M. Tuell presented him the Bishop’s Award at Annual Conference in 1988.

He returned to the pastorate and served in Hemet from 1988-94, when he retired for the first time, and he and Jeannette returned to Ventura. An interim appointment made him L.A. District Superintendent from Oct-Dec.1996, He retired for the second time in 1997, though he continued to preach and serve as an interim pastor.

In retirement, he and Jeannette accepted a position at Wananalua Congregational Church in Hana, Hawaii. He was “kahu” for three months each year 2000-2003.

Charles and Jeannette had four children, Stephen (Ellen), Philip “Reed,” Thomas (Tammy) and Wendy (Lori). They were extremely proud of their grandchildren, Marisa Simmons and Troy and Taylor Simmons. His great-granddaughter Aria Rose Hernandez was born in February.

Charles’ passions included travel, photography, gardening and prolific reading, and he led book-study groups in Hawaii and Ventura.

~The Family
THOMPSON, DONALD C. (T.60; F.63) New Jersey; Cal-Nev; SCA 65 Las Vegas: Griffith, Assoc; 66 Ocean Pk. Greater Parish; 68 LA: St. Paul's; 70 Inglewood: Grace; 72 (Jan 1) Church Coor. for "Set the Date Now"; 72 (Jun 15) S/L; 73 School; 75 Paramount; PSW 77 CSULB Wesley Foundation, Director; 80 S/L; 81 Buckeye; 82 San Dimas; C-P 85; 86 LA: Hamilton; 86 (Nov 1) La Palma; 87 Retired

It is with sadness that I share that Donald C. Thompson went to be with the Lord on November 27, 2017. He is survived by children: Tara (Duane) Sunnarborg, Kelley (May Begay) Thompson, Dale (Elizabeth) Thompson, Ross (Sharon) Thompson, Sara Kimm, Tracy Matlock, and Pamela (Timothy) Schram; 12 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. He was proceeded in death by grandson Justin Farrar, wife Jane Thompson, father Claude Thompson, and mother Irene DeCou.

He was born in New Jersey; held a Ph.D., Ed.D., and M.Div. He worked all over the United States as a Methodist Minister while campaigning for peace and justice. He marched with Martin Luther King Jr. and César Chavez, and was a missionary to Peru through Global Missions with UMC.

Always an advocate, he tended to have an edge to his personality which isolated him as he tried to champion the causes of "the least of these". However, his last two years of life were marked by a special sweetness. His caregivers found him endearing.

He died peacefully in his sleep in Port Charlotte, Florida at the age of 81. The family will held a private memorial service.

Thank you for enriching my father's life with your friendship.
The family and I ask the Lord bless you and give you His Peace.

~Tara Sunnarborg, Don's first-born child
H. Elwood Wissmann  
October 4, 1925 - April 8, 2018

WISSMANN, H. ELWOOD (T.47; F.51) SCA 47 School; 50 Globe; 53 (Nov 10) Encinitas; 60 (Oct) Fullerton: Orangethorpe; 67 Ontario: First; 70 Pacific Homes Corp.: Vice President of Public Relations; PSW 77 Artesia-Cerritos; 80 Sierra Madre; C-P 85; 88 Retired

Passed away at the age of 92 at The Samarkand Retirement Community. Elwood was born in Alhambra, California and was educated at the University of Southern California (where he received a bachelor’s degree in Sociology) and Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois (where he received his graduate degree in ministry).

During his college years, he met his future wife, Mary Jane Clay, who was working on her degree in physical therapy. They were married on June 19, 1949 (performed by Mary Jane’s father, a Methodist pastor) and moved to Evanston. Between 1949 and 1988, he served as pastor to several Methodist congregations in Southern California and Arizona, raised four children, and volunteered in countless ways (often in leadership roles) while mentoring many in ordained ministry. In 1988, he and Mary Jane retired, first to Dana Beach, California and eventually to Santa Barbara.

He is survived by his four children, David (Jeanne) Wissmann of Lenexa, Kansas, Bob (Karen) Wissmann of Huntington Beach, Kathy (John) Hull of Austin, Texas and Paul (Amy) Wissmann of Thousand Oaks. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Jane Wissmann, his parents, Homer and Mildred Wissmann, and great granddaughter, Brooklyn Hull.

~The Family
Robert “Bob” Youmans, of Encinitas, passed peacefully at the age of 87. Born in Kansas City, Missouri to Raymond O. and Irene Youmans, he grew up with four brothers and a twin sister. He attended Wyandotte High in Kansas City, Kansas, graduating in 1948 and Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas, graduating in 1951. He married Evelyn Louise Wilson Youmans in 1953. He served in the Korean War and earned a Bronze Star for bravery.

Robert received his theological training at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. His first ministry was at a small church in Covington, Texas. In 1962, he was offered a job as Chaplain at the San Diego County Jail. Robert earned his Ph.D. at United States International University and established one of the first rehabilitation counseling groups for prisoners in the nation.

Robert retired in 1983 and enjoyed traveling in his motorhome throughout the deserts of California and Nevada. In 1996, he parked his trailer on the property of his daughter, Ronette Youmans, and her husband, Dana Pearce. Robert greatly relished his relaxed life in the quiet gardens of their home in Encinitas and enjoyed the companionship and support of many at the San Dieguito United Methodist Church.

Robert is survived by his former wife Evelyn Youmans of San Diego; daughter Ronette Youmans and her husband, Dana Pearce; his daughter Michele Youmans Craig, her husband Derrell and their children Ryan and Molly Craig of Hamilton, Montana; and by Sabrina Youmans and her daughter, Avery Youmans of Los Angeles. Robert Youmans is also survived by his loving twin sister, Roberta Youmans of Kansas City, Missouri; brothers Ronald Youmans of Prairie Village, Kansas and Roger Youmans of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, and many loving nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brothers Russell Youmans and Ray Youmans.

Robert was a generous and talented man who enjoyed oil painting, sharing his views on politics, philosophy, and government over a hot cup of coffee. He can be best remembered as a supportive, loyal, and loving father, as his family was most important to him. Robert Youmans encouraged education, free thinking, and independence and his daughters each carry a part of him in their hearts and soul.

~Online Source
Life Companions
Mary Brown

January 13, 1924 - March 25, 2018

BROWN, HOWARD W. (T.49; F.53) W.Va.; SCA 61(April) Scottsdale: Min. of Educ.; 62 Apache Junction; 68 So. Pas; 73 S.D.: Trinity; PSW 77; C-P 85; 86 Rialto; 88 R’d.; 92 (Aug. 1) (Winchester: Comm.); 04 R’d

Mary Rose Hurst was born in Big Buffalo Creek, West Virginia, to Hiram Lincoln Hurst and Lennis Post Sommerville, in a log house that had belonged to her great grandfather. When she turned four, the family moved to Wolf Summit, West Virginia, shared by Mary, her parents and four siblings, Robert, Leona, Elsie and Nancy.

In the summer of 1949, Mary attended a Methodist Women’s conference on Youth Ministry held on the campus of West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon. There she caught the eye of Howard ‘Ace’ Brown, a graduating student, who quipped to his fraternity brother that he would marry that beautiful girl, Mary, by the sundial standing. And three months later, he did.

On November 23, 1949, Mary Rose Hurst and Howard William Brown married in a quiet ceremony at First Methodist Church in Clarksburg, West Virginia. The newlyweds moved into a dorm on the campus of Drew Seminary, New Jersey, where Howard had been matriculated into the ministerial program.

In May 1952 Howard earned his divinity degree and, by Fall, the couple began their ministry at Versailles Methodist Church in Pennsylvania. In 1958, they transferred to Calvary Methodist Church, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. In 1961, they moved West to desert parishes in Scottsdale and Apache Junction, Arizona.

In 1968, Mary and Howard relocated to Los Angeles to serve South Pasadena United Methodist Church. Five years later, they transferred to Trinity United Methodist Church, San Diego, and in 1986, Howard was appointed pastor of Rialto United Methodist Church. In 1988, they renewed their commitment to the ministry at Sun City United Methodist Church. In 1992, God called them to serve at Winchester Community United Methodist Church until 2004, when they retired from the ministry.

In 1996, Mom began more than five years of service as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate for CASA Riverside County, a nonprofit organization that provides special care for foster children, including court representation, support, and education. She also tutored in the public schools for many years.

Mary is survived by three children, Kathryn Lennis Mayer (Alan), Laura Hurst Brown, and Steven Howard Brown (Karen); four grandchildren, Brittany Rose (Doug), Lindsay Mayer Corcoran (Sean), Jacob Steven Brown (Arielle) and Matthew Steven Brown (Jessica); and two great grandchildren, Asher Howard Rose and Ryder Douglas Rose.

~Laura Hurst Brown
Jeanne Frances Sutton Detzer was born and grew up in Collinsville, Illinois, the youngest of three siblings. Treasured childhood memories of Jeanne’s included helping her dad on his ice cream truck delivery route, family dinners and playing with her beloved dog, Brownie. At Collinsville High School she and four other friends made up their own social club, named the “Wee Five,” who remained friends all of their lives. She enjoyed school and was a maid in the football coronation and a member of the National Honor Society.

She met Jordan Detzer in 1944 in Collinsville while chaperoning a church hayride. The next day Jordan asked her to go to church with him and they were married a year later in October 1945. Jeanne worked to support Jordan while he completed his college and seminary training. Throughout their lives, they lived in Michigan, Alaska, Colorado, California, Arizona and South Dakota during Jordan’s work as a Methodist pastor, college professor, and chaplain. Together they travelled the world, visiting many cultures and exploring world religions. Jeanne and Jordan had four sons; Ronald, David, Jordan and Mark.

Rafting, hiking trips and exploring the deserts and mountains of California, Arizona and Baja were just some of the young family’s journeys. Jeanne was an expert at managing travel, support, medical and the emotional care, and the glue that held the family together.

In 1971 Jordan and Jeanne settled in San Diego. Jeanne went on to attain her B.A., M.A. and P.P.S. credentials and became a Career Guidance Counselor. After her retirement, she volunteered for the Red Cross, Kaiser Hospital and was a member of P.E.O. After Jordan’s retirement the couple was active for many years in the First United Methodist Church of San Diego.

Jeanne’s innate ability to look on the bright side of life helped her and others in the deaths of her parents and in-laws, her son David, her husband Jordan, and with the debilitating stroke of her eldest son, Ronald.

She loved her family. Since her husband’s passing, the highlights of her life have been sharing time with her sons, Ronald, Jordan & Mark; daughters-in-law, Anne, Gail & Kathy; grandsons, Adam, Noah & Paul; and her many friends.

She will long be remembered by all who were blessed by knowing Jeanne.

~The Family
Merrie Dorval lived a spirited and love-filled 60 years. She was a bright, curious, and caring woman. When there was work to be done, her game face was serious and determined but, if Merrie had an inkling that an ounce of silliness or wry humor was in the mix, her eyes brightened and her wit sharpened.

Born in Tucson, Merrie graced us all with her auburn hair, dark brown eyes, and sweet smile. The family moved to Woodland Hills, and Merrie blossomed musically—she became a very good pianist.

Merrie studied French at UC Santa Barbara and spent a college year abroad in Grenoble, France. She went on to earn an M.A. in public administration from San Diego State University in 1984. While there, she and a colleague produced a KPBS radio series and that is how she met Craig.

A short while later at a Cardiff beach social event, Merrie politely interrupted a conversation Craig was having to offer him “a dried up, ugly piece of kelp” and then without a word walked away. How could Craig not be smitten? The two were meant to be. Married in August 1987, they honeymooned in what became Merrie’s most treasured place, Cambria and its beautiful coastline.

Merrie had a very successful career as an instructional designer, alongside colleagues who praised her writing and leadership skills. Longtime colleague Diane Ley said, “she had the utmost integrity and kindness.”

Merrie’s career and life was interrupted in 1991, at the age of 34, when she was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma. She responded successfully to treatment and went back to work eventually doing extensive consulting with Petco and Karen Pryor.

Merrie and Craig shared a wonderful life together at St. Mark’s UMC, their home in the El Cerrito neighborhood, and their getaway in Cambria. Merrie’ Facebook page had posts about walking stick insects, cockroaches, possums, a resident peacock in Cambria, baby goat antics, and, of course, dogs, especially her Sophie.

Known for her depth of knowledge about film, cooking, literature, music, and current politics, Merrie was a wonderful conversationalist and a caring friend. She maintained a positive outlook despite enduring more than any one person’s fair share of illness. Of the many blessings Merrie talked about, in her last year she especially enjoyed mentoring Justin Nieder during confirmation, and the close friendship they developed.

Merrie died peacefully on June 11, 2017.~ Rev. Craig Dorval
Evelyn Edwards grew up along the banks of the Susquehanna River in the small town of Halifax, Pennsylvania (population of 745 in 1910). In her early days her father, a rural mail carrier, kept a horse in their barn. During the winters the mail was delivered by hitching a sled to the horse and during summer evenings, neighbors gathered on the family's front porch to sit and chat. Her father always grew a large garden to supplement the family's food supply. This fostered Evelyn's lifelong interest in plants and gardening.

In her childhood she became a Girl Scout and achieved the "Gold Award" status. She played the clarinet in her school band, sang in the school choir and played the piano. She continued to enjoy music throughout her life. Upon graduating from high school, she went on to major in business at Bucknell University in Lewisburg and sang in the Concert Choir. As a senior she left Bucknell to marry K. Morgan Edwards. Following their wedding they left immediately to accept an appointment in Williams, Arizona, near the rim of the Grand Canyon. The parsonage was heated in the cold winters with a wood stove, fueled by scrap lumber from a nearby sawmill. Their first son, Kenneth, was born there. Each successive appointment resulted in another son. Lynn Harold was born in Rosemead, Bruce in Glendale, and David in Pasadena.

Evelyn was a truly gifted and wonderful helpmate and mother who, fortunately, enjoyed fishing and going to baseball games with her all male family. She handled the vicissitudes of life with a pleasant demeanor and good sense of humor.

When husband, Morgan, moved to the newly established Claremont School of Theology in 1961, Evelyn handled moving the family to another location with grace. Here she continued to support the local church as a volunteer and gave substantial time to the David and Margaret Youth and Family Services Home.

Following his retirement from the School they expanded the amount of time spent in the small, lakeside cabin they built just outside Polson, Montana. Even in retirement they served several Methodist churches in varying capacities. One year was spent serving the church in Helena, Montana.

~Bruce and Ken Edwards
Always ready with a big welcoming smile, Martha “Motsi” Ferris passed away at her home after a long wonderful life. She was 98 years old. A resident of Coronado for over 50 years, Motsi was born in Baltimore, Maryland and graduated from Western Maryland College in 1939 with a B.A. in Math and Science. She taught math, science and music at Margaret Brent High School in Helen, Maryland, for several years.

In 1948, while teaching at the Potter School for Girls in Tucson, Arizona, she met a handsome young Naval officer named Jim Ferris who was passing through from one duty station on the west coast to one on the east coast. After a short courtship via traditional mail they were married and had a long life together moving every couple of years to places like Philadelphia; Argentina; Newfoundland; Washington D.C.; Naples, Italy; Mare Island of Vallejo, Ca; Brooklyn, NY; Barbers Point, Hawaii; North Island of Coronado; Parris Island, SC; and back to Coronado.

Upon arriving at each new location, Motsi joined the local social clubs, signed up to volunteer at Navy Relief and joined the various sports leagues where she quickly made friends. With every move it was amazing how fast she was able to turn an unfamiliar house into a place to call home.

Motsi excelled in everything she did. She played field hockey and ice skated in high school and college. Then, there was bowling, golf and even tennis well into her 80’s. She faithfully completed the daily crossword puzzles and was at the bridge table at least once a week.

Motsi loved her friends and stayed in touch with many of them throughout all of her moves. She loved to entertain and was known for her parties where there was always a theme and very often games of all kinds.

Motsi is survived by her daughter Gwen Haynes (Chris) of California; son Jeffrey Ferris (Anne McKinnon) of Boston; grandchildren Justin Haynes (Lauren) of Seattle and Rebecca Ferris of Brooklyn New York; and nieces Eleanor (Terry) Mosser of Stanton, Illinois, and Thelma Phipps of Deerfield, Illinois.

~Online Source
I was a lucky guy when, Sharon lassoed this preacher's kid from the path on which I was headed. A mutual friend refused to give me her phone number, but I prevailed, and from then on we were constantly together. Sharon went to Medical Vocational School and worked as a Lab Tech. With her blessing, I went to the School of Theology at Claremont and we served at a former E.U.B. Church in Pomona. (I say "we" because we really were devoted teammates.) While I continued seminary, I served on the staff of the Upland congregation; she worked in an office.

We were sent to our first full-time church appointment and had our first daughter and a son, neither of which came with instruction manuals. Then we were appointed to be in charge of a congregation where the parsonage was a real fixer upper, and two more girls came into the world. Sharon had no idea how she could ever manage, but she stepped up to the plate, singlehandedly getting four little ones ready for Church and showing up with a smile on her face. The holidays were always a highlight, especially Christmas, including hosting the church staff.

Returning to Upland, she added to her plate Scouting and PTA President. To escape the smog, we accepted a seven-year assignment to Laguna Hills. Sharon returned to working outside the home at a psychiatrist's office. Among other involvements were hosting bunco parties which she frequently won.

In the Santa Clarita Valley she was appreciated by all ages in the two congregations we served as a welcoming confidant, sharing compassion and guidance, making a real difference. She worked at a Nabisco distribution center and on facilities and human resources at Work Life Benefits which prepared her for being on the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits.

She was a courageous cancer survivor twice and agonized with nerves attached to scar tissue and a disintegrating back. But she carried on, even going in to work with staples in an incision to fire an inept employee who the boss was afraid to fire.

She was blessed to visit many places, and assist many guests through Educational Opportunities until it became too physically painful for her. All of her beloved family and friends deeply miss her but are thankful she has been rescued from her pain and continue to be full of precious memories.

~Rev. Dr. Stan Fix
Noemi was born in the small town of Hayden, Arizona. She was the youngest of seven children that were blessed to call The Rev. Yrineo and Francisca Fernandez their parents.

She grew up and married the love of her life, The Rev. Ladislao Flores, with whom she shared fifty-eight years of marriage. She is survived by her husband, Ladislao, her four children (and their spouses): Ladislao Timothy Flores (Esperanza), Lydia Naomi Flores, Delia Beatriz Puchianu (Daniel), Helen Juliet Zorrilla (Adolfo "Al"), her 2 grandchildren: Brittany Flores, David Flores, her brother Juan Fernandez and countless nieces and nephews in California, Arizona, Florida, Colorado, Mexico and Spain.

Noemi dedicated her life to serving Our Lord Jesus Christ in the United Methodist Church. She served as Sunday School Teacher, choir member, secretary, fundraiser (making tamales), Youth Camp leader, seamstress (making quilts for persons in need), Christmas Play director, and tour guide (Israel). She worked tirelessly to bring the Good News of Salvation through her examples of Christian love and fellowship.

Noemi (Naomi) was called Home by God on October 29, 2017.

~The Family
Andeen Ford
March 31, 1922 - October 17, 2017

FORD, ROY D. (T.33; F.36) SC 33 School; 34 (Barkersville, N.Y.); 36 Whittier, Assoc. 37 Chandler; SCA 39; 40 LA: Garvanza 45 (Oct 1) Maywood: Atlantic Blvd.: 53 S/L; 54 Dept. Christian Ed., LA Church Federation 56 (April 1) SA: First., Min. of Ed.; 63 (Feb 1) Alhambra: Marengo Ave.; 69 S.D., Wesley; 74 R’d; PSW 77; C-P 85 R’d

Long-time North County San Diego resident, Andeen Ford left this world at the age of 95 in the same way she lived her life - gracefully, kindly and gently. Born in Chicago, Illinois, Andeen was the first of two daughters born to Andrew and Else Skafgard. Following high school, Andeen attended college until she was swept off her feet by a young Marine pilot, Charles W. Buntin. They married in 1943 and had two children. Major Charles Buntin was killed in action in Korea in 1952.

Andeen found love again and married in 1958 to Roy D. Ford, a Methodist Pastor she knew through her life at the First Methodist Church in Santa Ana where she was a Sunday School teacher and he the Minister of Education. Ever grateful for the gift of each other they had been given, Roy and Andeen had two more children in 1959 and 1962. Andeen embraced the role of pastor's wife. She helped serve multiple congregations alongside her husband while raising and caring for her family. Roy's retirement from the ministry in 1974 allowed them to choose their retirement home in Vista, California, where he opened a family counseling office and she went to work in the Vista Unified School District as a secretary at Washington Middle School. She remained at the School until her retirement 12 years later.

Throughout her life, Andeen gave generously of her time. She always had one volunteer project or another in play but, once retired from the school district, in 1985 Andeen began volunteering in earnest with the Tri-City Hospital Auxiliary. She worked at the main entry desk directing visitors. She helped to monitor and mentor the junior volunteers by tracking schedules and hours and helped in the selection process where educational scholarships were awarded to deserving young volunteers. On the side, she knit more newborn caps than can be counted. Over the course of her 30 years on their roster, she amassed 8,214 hours of service and made many friends.

Andeen and Roy brought their church membership to San Dieguito United Methodist Church where they enjoyed continuing devotion to their faith and involvement with their church family until Roy’s death in 2013. Andeen is survived by her children, Richard Buntin, Janis Silence, David Ford, Mark Ford, and two step children, Marcia Galland and Lawrence Ford, and grandchildren, Joseph Torsey and John Torsey, and her sister, Barbara Williams.

~Richard Buntin
Sumio Fujimoto

June 24, 1932 - January 4, 2018

FUJIMOTO, HARUYOSHI (F) United Church of Christ in Japan; C-P 86 North Gardena: Assoc; 88 Hon: Wesley, Assoc; 96 (Aug) Retired (¶ 452.2d)

Sumio was born in Takasaki, Gunma Ken, North of Tokyo. When she was 13, at the end of World War II, she saw her house completely destroyed in the US bombing of Takasaki and she felt then the emptiness of visible property. She asked her parents to send her to school in Tokyo rather than receiving the distribution of the family property. The name of the College she chose, was "Keisen", which means "Fountain of Grace." It was through this College that she became a Christian. After college, she returned to her home town Takasaki, and entered Gunma University in the Department of English literature.

When she was a student in the University, she started to get involved in Christian Students Work Camps, first in Tokyo, second in Sado Island, and the third in Kochi, in Shikoku Island. It was at this Kochi International Work Camp that she met Harry. Four years later, they got married on March 28, 1959, but they lived separately 500 miles away for 2 years until Harry graduated from the seminary. Three years later they came to Boston University, then Bossey Ecumenical Institute in Switzerland, returned to Japan and worked as Junior College chaplain in Kofu, local ministry in Shiojiri, missionary work in Upstate NY & Metro NY., followed by high school chaplaincy in Hiroshima, and Japanese language ministry in N. Gardena and Hawaii.

In all of these 16 years in Japan, and 16 and half years in the US. Sumio has been Harry's wonderful partner, and thoughtful and helpful mother to her kids and grandkids. She was a singer, an artist, a Hula dancer, a teacher in flower arrangement and the tea ceremony, a homemaker, and a good cook. After their retirement they traveled to nearly 30 countries and this last year they had a beautiful and memorable trip to Japan, which unknowingly became her farewell trip to say goodbye to her friends and family. She passed in the morning of Jan.4, 2018 with pancreatic cancer at the age of 85.

Sumio, your care and love overwhelmed us and has encouraged us to still go ahead beyond the sorrow and grief, realizing there will be a joyful reunion at the Heavenly Gate. To Him be the Glory and Praise, who made us one in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

~Haruyoshi Fujimoto and the family
John 14:1-4

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.
You believe in God; believe also in me.
My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so,
would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?
And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come back and take you to be with me that
you also may be where I am.
You know the way to the place where I am going.”
Lois M. Gilliland, age 88, of Bishop California, passed away peacefully at the Bishop Care Center. Lois was born in Stratford, New Jersey to Edwin and Gladys Harris. The first eight years of her life were spent with them in the Belgian Congo where her father was a missionary doctor. She spent the next nine years of her young life in two different boarding schools for missionary children while her parents served two terms in Africa. In 1950, Lois graduated from Houghton College in upstate New York where she met and fell in love with Dean Gilliland. They were married soon after college and enjoyed nearly 62 years together before Dean's death in 2013.

Lois spent almost 25 years of her life in Nigeria as a Methodist missionary's wife where she raised her family of five children. She learned the Hausa language well enough to barter in the marketplace, cooked on a wood stove in the early years, and instilled in her children a respect and curiosity for nature and other cultures.

When she and Dean moved to Pasadena, California, in 1978, she decided it was time to go back to school. She received her Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology and began her private practice in her mid-fifties. During this time, she touched numerous lives and continued to do so even after she retired and moved with Dean to Pilgrim Place in Claremont, California. She led both a grief group and a grandparent's group there until her first stroke in 2012. Following Dean's death, Lois moved to Bishop, California to be closer to immediate family where she was able to comfortably live out the rest of her days. She will be deeply missed by her children and grandchildren and, as we mourn her passing, we celebrate in the fact that she is safely in the arms of her Loving Savior and re-united with the husband she longed to be with.

Lois is survived by her children, Dean Jr. (spouse, Linda Tobash); David, Dale, Barbara Jo (spouse, Scott Lasley) and Doug as well as her grandchildren, Lois, Ross, Hannah, and Jeremy.

~Online Source
Sandra Lou Gorsline

July 6, 1938 - May 25, 2017

GORSLINE, ALAN P. (T.62; F.64) SCA 60-61 (National City, Asst.); 62 School; 64 El Cajon: Chapel of the Valley; 66 Holtville; 72 Paso Robles: Shandon & San Miguel; 74 Arroyo Grande; PSW 77; 84 Northridge; C-P 85; 87 Downey; 92 Oxnard: St. Paul’s; 2000 R’d

Sandra Lou Gorsline, was born in Marlborough, Massachusetts. She moved to California with her family in 1950 and settled in the San Fernando Valley. She attended Northridge Elementary School, John Sutter Junior High School and Canoga Park High School where she graduated in 1956. During High School she was an active member of the Methodist Youth Fellowship at the Northridge United Methodist Church and remained a member of the Church until the mid 1980’s.

On September 29, 1984 Sandra was blessed to marry Pastor Alan Paige Gorsline. Sandra and Alan were married 30 years before his passing on September 28, 2015. Over the years they lovingly spent time serving together at Northridge, Downey and St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Oxnard, California. Sandra and Alan were leaders of the Retired Fellowship Group and were committed to visiting the sick, whether at home or in the hospital, often sitting with family members while their loved ones were in surgery. Sandra was an active member of the UMW, participating with the circle, general meetings, and all fundraisers. She also served as the church secretary. In their spare time they loved traveling and camping in their RV and spending time with their family and friends.

Sandra is survived by her sister, Jackie McGuire, her daughter, Laura Parisi, her son David Gorsline and her eight grandchildren. Sadly, Sandra’s son David Watson passed way on February 22, 2017 from kidney disease.

Her family describes her as the epitome of sweetness, kindness, caring, and grace. Someone who always had a beautiful, loving smile on her face. She left this world as calmly and sweetly as she lived in it with her daughter by her side.

~Laura Parisi
From the time she was three, Gloria took tap and ballet lessons. She was also a twirler and drum majorette. Gloria was awarded a full scholarship at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. She was a twirler and head drum majorette with the TCU marching band.

Upon graduation from TCU, she was recruited to teach in Norwalk, California. While there, she went to the First Methodist Church in Norwalk, and went a training event. Galal Gough, her husband to be, was also there. The two met during a get-acquainted activity and they started dating. Not long after, after a Rose Bowl Game, Galal kissed her goodnight, and without planning to, proposed, and Gloria said "Yes." (What a date!)

Their wedding was in the First Methodist Church of Ennis, Texas. Two days later they flew to New York and joined a tour group that visited eight nations in Europe.

They were soon expecting their first child. Galal became full-time pastor at Christ Church in Norwalk and Gloria continued teaching until a month before their daughter, Gayle, was born. (What a year!)

During six years at Santa Ana, Gloria was led to a return to public school teaching. She continued teaching there after her husband was appointed in Long Beach. While in Long Beach, Gloria was invited to become involved in the Joint Commission work with the Methodist Churches in Mexico. That began forty years of supporting the work of the Commission.

When her husband was appointed Riverside District Superintendent, Gloria continued teaching in Santa Ana. When Galal was appointed to the San Carlos, Gloria taught a first-grade class in San Diego. She also received an M.A. in Early Childhood Development from United States International University. In 1993, when Galal retired, Gloria also retired and they moved up to their mountain home near Idyllwild.

Gloria suffered her first heart attack in 1996. In 2004 Gloria had a second, major heart attack. As her situation worsened, they moved to Sun City Gardens residential facility and then into assisted living. The heart attack, surgery, and circulation issues began to lead her into memory problems and Alzheimer's but her personality did not change. She remained a loving, caring, warm-hearted wife, mother and friend.

Gloria is survived by Rev. Galal Gough, her husband of 61 years; her four daughters; her six grandchildren; and one great grandchild. Gloria also leaves two sisters: Judy Armitage and Diana Gilbert.

~The Family
Mary F. Jefferson
February 4, 1922 - July 14, 2017

JEFFERSON JR, MATTHEW MOORE (T.42; F.44) Wash. 42 School; 43 Wash.: Asbury, Asst.; 44 Sparrows Pt.; 46 Baltimore: St. Matthews; SCA 50 (Sept. 1) SD: St. Paul’s; 55 LA: St. John’s; 61 Pas.: Scott; 72 Hollypark; 75 Inglewood: First; PSW 77; 84 R'd. (447.2c)(LA: Martin Luther King)(RM); C-P 85 R’d.

Mary Frances Johnson was born at Meharry Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee, the third of six children. Her family were members of John Wesley Methodist Church where she accepted Christ during a revival at age 11.

Mary completed her first two years of college at Tennessee State. She received a scholarship from the Women’s Society of Christian Service to attend Gammon Theological Seminary for a degree in Religious Education while simultaneously attending Clark College to complete her undergraduate studies. In May 1943, Mary Frances was the only female graduate in her class at Gammon alongside nine men, one of whom was to become her future husband.

After graduation, Mary accepted a job at Morgan State College in Baltimore, Maryland. Rev. Matthew Moore Jefferson, Jr. accepted his first appointment to Sparrows Point Methodist Church in Maryland. By April of 1944, Mary and Matthew married. During the next four years, they became parents to Matthew, III, and Willa.

In 1950, the family moved to St. Paul Methodist Church in San Diego. By 1951, while pregnant with their third child, Phyllis, Mary became a substitute teacher. In 1955, their next church assignment was in Los Angeles at St. John Methodist Church where twins, William and Lillian, were born.

In 1961, the family moved to Scott Methodist Church in Pasadena where Mary worked part-time as a Release Time Education teacher with the Pasadena Council of Churches. In 1969, she returned to school at Pasadena Nazarene College, to qualify for her California teaching credential. After receiving a degree in English in 1970, Mary taught Elementary Education for the next fourteen years.

In 1972, her husband’s next assignment was at Hollypark UMC of Gardena. In 1975, Matthew’s final appointment was at First United Methodist Church of Inglewood before he retired. They enjoyed eight years of retirement together until the passing of her dear husband in 1992.

Mary spent the next 25 years of retirement visiting her children in San Francisco, San Diego, Fountain Hills, Arizona, and Paris, France. She continued to be a member of Inglewood: First UMC 42 years, serving most recently as the Chairperson of the Pastor/Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Mary and Matthew were very proud that they produced five curious and determined children whose development they were able to positively influence in becoming productive adults who contribute to their communities.

~The Family
Ellen Johenk

January 26, 1924-October 21, 2017

JOHENK, PAUL G. (T.40; F.42) New Jersey; SCA 46 (Sept. 27) LA: Euclid Hts.; 51 Tempe; 52 La Puente; 57 Chaplain, LA General Hospital; 59 Chaplain, Methodist Hospital, Acadia, PSW 77; 84 R’d.; C-P 85 R’d.

Our mother, a long-time Arcadia resident, passed away peacefully in October. She was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, to Lottie Anna (Coleman) and Theodore Elliott. She was raised on a small farm in Ohio and had one sibling, a brother, Theodore Jr. After graduation from high school, she attended Xavier College where she took classes in sewing, re-weaving, and tailoring that she used throughout her life.

During the Korean War, while working for the government, she met our father Charles Sanders. They lived in Coral Gables, Florida until shortly after their first child was born. Then they moved across the country and settled in Arcadia in late 1957. They had two more children before our father’s unexpected passing.

Some years later, at a class he was teaching at the Church of the Good Shepherd, she met Paul Johenk and was married to him until his death in 1993. He was the Chaplain at Arcadia Methodist Hospital for many years and Ellen became active in their Hospital Auxiliary. She was also a member of long-standing in the philanthropic educational organization, PEO, Chapter CK. She liked working at and helping to staff their Daz-e Thrift Shop in Altadena.

Once her children started growing older, Ellen decided to pursue a career in Real Estate. She became a successful agent and broker and enjoyed it for many years. When she finally retired she had more time for her special interests. Whether it was her gardening, taking classes at church or playing bridge she was a busy lady. She and Paul traveled the world and visited numerous countries. They also enjoyed going to the theater. Their grandchildren were their pride and joy and lived close enough to visit often.

Ellen is survived by her children, Linda (Steve) Skjelstad, Charles Michael Sanders and Nancy Burau, her four grandsons and four great-grandchildren. She will be loved and remembered every day.

~Linda Skjelstad
Virginia Jones

June 29, 1925 - December 29, 2017

JONES, WENDELL W. (T.57; F.62) EUB CAL.; SCA 69 LB: Evangelical; 75 Anaheim: Trinity; PSW 77; 79 Pearblossom; C-P 85; 90 R'd (¶451.2c)

Isaiah 43:2

“When you pass through the waters,
    I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
    they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
    you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.”
Beloved member of Kilohana United Methodist Church, Ellie Lott (Elinore Jean Gray) has reunited with husband Rev Robert Alonzo Lott. Elinore passed Sunday evening, September 10th. She is survived by her three sons, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Ellie was born in Collingdale, Pennsylvania. She was a Pennsylvania resident until coming to Hawaii in 1978. She has been active in the church community for many years and in the many United Methodist churches that Bob served as pastor. Floral design and decorating were Ellie's hobbies and passion for many years. A world traveler, she visited over 50 countries throughout her life. Her love for God, His people and concern for their needs shaped her daily involvements.

~The Family
Suzanna Malony
February 17, 1933 - September 29, 2017

MALONY, H. NEWTON (T.53; F.55) N. Ala.; Holston; SCA 69 Fuller Seminary, Professor; PSW 77 Fuller Seminary, Professor & Director of Programs in the Integration of Psy & Theology, Graduate School of Psy; C-P 85; 95 Retired (¶452.2c)

Suzanna Davis Malony died with complications from atrial fibrillation in Eugene, Oregon where she was living in retirement with her husband H. Newton Malony. They had moved to Eugene from Southern California to be nearer two of their sons, Larz and Allen. In addition to a third, son, Michael, in Arkansas, she had a large family of three daughters-in-law, six grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren, not to mention a younger brother and sister and a number of nieces and nephews many of whom came together to celebrate her life in a service at Eugene’s First United Methodist Church in November of 2017. Her ashes were scattered in the Church’s Memory Garden.

She had lived in the four corners of the nation supporting the graduate education of her husband whom she met at Birmingham-Southern College in the 1950s. She worked as a high school teacher and guidance counselor in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Connecticut, and California where she was the girl’s swimming coach at Pasadena High School. They were known as ‘Suzanna’s Speedoes’.

Suzanna was president of the UMWs in both Pasadena and Claremont. She was a social liberal. She always loved cats and sewed a plaque that read “Four spoiled rotten cats live here.” She had visited much of Europe and South America including a year at Oxford while her husband was on sabbatical leave. She was deeply loved and appreciated. She died too soon.

~The Family
John McMullen
November 12, 1928 - October 30, 2017

Psalm 27:4-5

“One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.
For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.”
James McWee

September 15, 1928 – July 27, 2017

McWEE, LOYCE D. (DM.89; FD.97) C-P 89 Hacienda Hgts.: St. Matthew’s, Coordinator of Senior Adult Services; 90 Arcadia: Church of the Good Shepherd, Diocesan Minister of Outreach/Older Adults; 94 Rancho Santa Margarita: Santa Margarita, Diocesan Minister; 97 Laguna Hills, Minister of Children’s Ministry; 99 (Sep) L/A; 2000 Retired

Jim spent his formative years in Canada. With dreams of a brighter future, his family sent him to live with relatives in Los Angeles during WWII. There he flourished and found engineering and project management were his gifts and talents. The day he met his future bride on a blind date, he knew Loyce would be the focus and love of his life.

His U.S. Navy deployments during the Korean conflict shaped him both for the good and the bad. Afterwards, he set to building a typical post-war era married life focused on career, two children, and community involvement. Jim’s engineering career progressed by leveraging his fascination with geology and building foundation design. For the rest of his secular career, he partnered with many other professionals to construct the LA Basin’s skylines, major venues, cities, and its physical infrastructure. Those projects will endure as his gift to the world; yet, we have other reminders of his generosity and service in the local mission field.

When not working at his professional practice, Jim volunteered his project management and business acumen skills to St. Matthew’s UMC. He served on the Board of Trustees and frequently consulted with ministers on fiscal or buildings & grounds issues. Jim also served as a parent in local community organizations like Boy Scouts of America and the local high school.

During the 1950s, Loyce felt called to serve by working with children. As her biggest encourager, Jim was key to her living that out. He supported her early volunteerism in children’s programs and then her special education teaching. Unique to the times, he motivated, mentored, and sustained her as she reached her goals of completing graduate studies while also teaching and parenting. Through those works, she eventually was led by the Holy Spirit to broaden her calling into diaconal ministry. Jim continued to facilitate her desire to invest herself in this local outreach.

When he retired, Jim and Loyce became fully dedicated to service and this became their true life’s work. With a missionary’s heart, Jim was active behind-the-scenes as part of Loyce’s diaconal efforts including medical mission trips to Mexico and at a local food bank. One of his favorite outreach ministries was providing companionship to a home-bound WWII veteran. When Jim wasn’t helping Loyce, he often could be found on his sailboat in Dana Point Harbor or visiting his children in San Francisco and Washington.

~The Family
Bob and Janet met during World War II at Ohio Wesleyan University. Bob graduated early and went into the Navy as an officer. When he returned from the Pacific in October 1945, they were married two weeks later! Bob attended Yale Divinity School where he and Janet felt called to serve in the mission field in Japan. After completing Divinity School and working at a local church in New Haven, Connecticut, they drove across the US with their three young children and boarded a ship bound for Kobe, Japan, in 1953. They served in Kobe for two years and then moved into their home in Osaka for the next 32 years. Bob worked as a cooperating missionary with several small Japanese churches and at universities. Janet worked at the Yodogawa Christian Hospital as a medical social worker.

In 1984, Bob and Janet retired from the mission field and moved to Hawaii. Bob served as the pastor at Harris United Methodist Church in Honolulu for three years and then at Keolumana United Methodist Church in Kailua, also on Oahu. After their time in Hawaii, Janet wanted a chance to live near her beloved twin sister. So, after many, many years of separation, they moved to Phoenix, Arizona in 1991 where Bob served in several area churches.

Bob and Janet were madly in love with each other every day of their lives. They were an inspiration and a joy to their friends and family. Their generosity and kindness abounded in everything they did and in everyone they met. They are survived by their five children, 17 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren. May they both rest in blessed peace.

~Elizabeth Minahan
Elsie Rogers
October 24, 1929 – May 1, 2018

ROGERS, CORNISH (T.54; F.56) N.Y.; SCA 58 (Sep 1) LA: Calvary; 66 Pasadena District Urban Ministries, Coordinator; 67 (Feb 1) LA: Wesley; 70 Chicago, IL: Christian Century, Assoc. Ed.; 74 Oxnard: St. Paul’s; PSW Oxnard: St. Paul’s; 77 (Nov) Claremont; 80 Claremont School of Theology, Assoc. Professor; 84 Claremont School of Theology, Professor C-P 85; 97 R’d (¶355.2c)

Elsie Daniels Rogers was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. Graduating from college, Elsie worked in secondary and elementary education. She relocated to New York City at the national headquarters of a board of The Methodist Church specializing in education, curriculum development, and administration. It was there that she caught the eye of a young pastor by the name of Cornish R. Rogers, and not long thereafter, the two were married in 1955. They embarked upon a life-long love affair — grounded in friendship, commitment and sacrifice — for more than 60 years.

From their union a trailblazing son, named David, was born in 1956. After moving to Los Angeles, Elsie acquired a position as supervising teacher in an all-white school. Elsie commented that she felt like she needed to be “doubly good” to get that position. But when the riots broke out in Watts, Elsie requested a transfer to the schools of LA’s inner-city communities. There, she helped many a student jump a year ahead of expected progress. Elsie received an M.A. in Education Administration and was named principal at Condit Elementary School in Claremont, California in 1979.

Beyond her educational endeavors she often travelled with her husband overseas — South America, Africa, Germany, Ireland, England, Switzerland, Spain. With Cornish, she co-authored a church school curriculum for 4th, 5th and 6th graders, published by the United Methodist Publishing House entitled, “Children: We Are All Free” and “Jesus, the Liberator.” She also worked with Cornish to establish Aspires West, a program of tutoring and mentoring inner city youth that is still blessing children and families. She loved to sew with the sewing machine always visible in her bedroom.

In 1986, an accident left David in a quadriplegic condition. She gave her entire life encouraging and taking care of her son. The same love she expressed to Cornish and David, she had for her extended family — serving as inspiration for family reunions, friends and family gatherings, and multitudes of parties and get-togethers at the Rogers household.

Elsie did things first class. And she expected and worked for us to be first class in family, church, and community. Ironically, she started her journey home in the same place Cornish started his: over a cup of coffee at their kitchen table. She leaves to mourn her sister; her sister-in-law; many cousins, nieces, nephews and children who feel like they’ve lost a grandmother, and a host of friends.

~Published Obituary
Dorothy Sanders

September 15, 1915–September 15, 2017

SANDERS, R. HYLTON (T.36; F.40) SC 36 School; 37 School; SCA 39; 40 Temple City; 43 (Apr. 15) Chaplain, U.S.N.; 45 (Dec 15) Coronado; 48 El Centro; 50 Redondo Beach, First; 54 Pasadena: St. James, Assoc.; 56 Pas: St. James; 61 San Fernando, First; 66 Van Nuys, First; 68 La Mirada; PSW 77; 80 R’d.; C-P 85 R’d

Dorothy was born to Nell Ann of Pensacola, Florida and James Oliver Ross of Nova Scotia, a naturalized American Citizen.

Dorothy was the eldest of three, growing up in the suburb of Highland Park. Younger brothers William McDonald and Oliver Rowland followed her into all school activities and the Highland Park Methodist Church.

After graduation from Franklin High School, she worked her way through college at the height of the Depression. Best friend Ruth Martin, a youth leader on the Conference level, introduced Dorothy and Hylton at Methodist Youth Camp in Pacific Palisades.

While she attended Chapman College, Hylton finished a B.A. at U.S.C. and headed off to Drew University in New Jersey. They married June 24th, 1936. Daughter Carol was born December 1938 and Dorothy never finished her degree in sociology. Instead she was the supreme helpmate to Hylton, as they served at many churches under the leadership of, at first, Bishop Baker.

Two sons followed: R. Hylton in 1942 and Bruce Lynn in 1946. Many moves to Southern California churches followed. Dorothy did all she could to support her husband, and besides raising a family, she taught Sunday School, played organ and piano when needed, hosted countless women’s circles and prayer groups, started one of the first senior social groups at the Redondo Beach church, and acted as sounding board for her preacher, after long hours of sermon preparation each week, for 60 years. In the early years she also taught piano.

On a visit to London, England in 1983 Hylton, Dorothy and Carol found their way to Aldersgate, where they found at least several hundred American Methodists mulling around in awe in Wesley Chapel. The curator asked, “Does anyone play the organ?” And of course, her husband volunteered her as he always did. She began to play an ancient little organ, and the faithful began to sing the old familiar hymns. The curator came around to the family and whispered, “That is Charles Wesley’s own organ.” Thrill of a lifetime!

Hylton told all that her name meant “Gift from God” and her three children agree. She left us on her 102nd birthday, September 15, 2017 in Seattle and is buried beside Hylton at Rose Hills in Whitter.

~The Family
Mrs. Su’esolo “Sue” Afasene Siofele was born in Vatia, American Samoa. She went to be with our Lord on January 1, 2018. She was one of ten children to the late Fa’amoe Tali and Utuito Uelese Lauti-Tali. She is survived by her loving husband and children. A faithful, dedicated, and beloved wife to her high school sweetheart, Pastor Joe P. Siofele. A loving mother, compassionate grandmother, caring sister, and most gracious aunt.

They moved to Hawai‘i to provide a better life for their family. She served as the church secretary and treasurer for many years, until Joseph answered the call to serve the Samoan Language Ministry at Aiea United Methodist Church. They answered the call of God in 1997, and never looked back. She served alongside her husband and provided care to the women of AUMC. She held many offices in the Church and served on various committees; but her passion was praying and studying the Word of God. They attended Aiea UMC where Joe continues to minister.

Su’e loved the Lord with all her heart, and all her mind, and all her strength. She believed that God was, is, and always will be her strength and shield. She lived a selfless life and loved her family and extended family. She epitomized Proverbs 31:1 “Ose tina amio lelei, e sili lona tau i penina.” One of her favorite songs was, “I Love You, Lord.”

Her joy as a Mother was because of her children: Setema (Tiki) Siofele-Sagapolutele; Monalisa (Langi) Siofele-Lolohea; Joseph (Tuala) Siofele; and John Fa’aolataga Siofele (deceased); her numerous nieces and nephews and hanai children, Tara Utu Anna & Taimane Tabitha Su’e Yasuda, Malia Maeva Uta, Leilani Olive Karapani, and many more. She taught her grandchildren their memory verses and instilled a heart of gratitude towards God and others. This is evident through them: Jonah Ioane, John-Keawe, Jaron-Keawe, Jenai-Keawe, Mathyas-John (MJ), Su’e, and Baby Rosa.

A prayer warrior and leader of Aiea UMC and the Pacific Islanders’ United Methodist Community; she will truly be missed. Her grace, beauty, and faith are incomparable. As she now rests from her labors, we hear her Master replying, “Enter into thy rest, well done thy good and faithful servant.”

~The Family
As a 40’s graduate in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, I immediately went to college, graduating from Baldwin Wallace in Berea, Ohio. Married, we moved to Chicago for ten years and then in 1960 to Phoenix, Arizona, for the growing up of five children. They moved on to college and I moved on in 1974 to a second marriage with Dale Smith, a United Methodist pastor, then serving as associate at Westwood UMC in Los Angeles.

I came in to the role as a person with my own identity, and was thereby able to thoroughly enjoy, participate, give and receive in a way that has greatly enriched my life. Working in churches with Dale in La Crescenta, Ontario, Pomona, and Los Angeles Centenary was most rewarding.

And there was attending classes at Claremont School of Theology; a three-month sabbatical taking us around the world visiting mission stations, and scuba diving, back packing, music lessons,

L.A. Philharmonic, and L.A. Opera, have all been squeezed in between regular church events and activities.

As the financial office manager for a pediatrician (13 years), I became well acquainted with computers and find even in retirement that the addiction still persists. I worked with my husband for 22 years in Covenant Relationship for a Better World, raising support for United Methodist Missionaries - very rewarding.

Children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have enhanced a wonderful life.

~Written in 2017 by Miriam Smith
Roslyn Towler was born on January 12, 1930, the second child of Edward and Helen Thompson in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Her parents and sister preceded her in death. Roslyn was baptized at an early age at St. Paul’s AME Church in Pittsburg. She graduated from South Hills High School in Pittsburg, and then completed nursing school at Montefiore Hospital in Pittsburg with an RN degree.

In 1952, she married Daniel Lee Towler and moved to Los Angeles, California. They had one daughter, Roslyn, and in 1956 they moved to Pasadena so Dan could be the Minister of Lincoln Avenue Methodist Church. While Dan was ministering, Roz was a wonderful minister’s wife, singing in the choir and making lifelong friends.

As her daughter grew, Roz began work at Pasadena Planned Parenthood. She served on the boards of Planned Parenthood and the Pasadena Senior Center. Travel was an important part of Roz and Dan’s life. They traveled extensively through Europe for church work, even leading a work team of young people to Crete, Greece.

In later years, Roz grew tired and was ready to go to the lord. On December 20, 2017, her wish was granted and she passed to be with her lord. Roz was a wonderful mother and friend, and will be greatly missed.

~Her Daughter