

Buracker & Boraker

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Martha (Geshe) Boraker 1912-2006

AFTER reaching her 94th birthday, Martha Boraker died two days later on the 26th March at the care home in Everett, Washington.

On the 4th April, a family internment took place at the Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in the morning at 11.00 a.m. followed by a family lunch at the Holiday Inn in Everett. About 40 relatives enjoyed a delicious meal together before the Memorial Service at the Mortuary in the afternoon.

After introductory comments by the presiding minister, Nels Lien, and a solo by Sean King, Martha Boraker's son Robert gave the following Eulogy:

Even though I live in England, I wanted to be with you on this special occasion. This is a time when we can pay our final respects to my mother, Martha Boraker. It is, of course, always a very sad and difficult time when a life ends and we lose someone we knew and loved. But as friends and relatives of Martha Boraker, we are here to pay tribute to her long life that affected us so much.

My mother's responsibilities as wife, mother and homemaker increased when my father was away for long periods while working in Alaska or on tugboats. Looking back at what she had to do is more appreciated now than at the time. When thinking about her busy life, I am reminded of what King

Lemuel said about the role of a godly woman in Proverbs 31:

Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; so he will have no lack of gain. She does him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and willingly works with her hands. She is like the merchant ships [when] she brings her food from afar. She also rises while it is yet night, and provides food for her household, and a portion for her maidservants. She



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considers a field and buys it. From her profits she plants a vineyard. She girds herself with strength, and strengthens her arms. She perceives that her merchandise is good. And her lamp does not go out by night....

She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies sashes for the merchants. Strength and honour are her clothing; she shall rejoice in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness. She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her (Proverbs 31:10-18, 24-28, NKJV).

I think my mother was that kind of woman. She was a Christian who fulfilled the role of a virtuous wife and caring mother who seemed to be always busy cooking, canning, doing housework and paying the bills when our father was away. And that is the tribute I would like to pay her today. We loved her while she was alive and we will sorely miss her. But there is a time coming when we can see her again.

Although the Bible reveals that death is an enemy, it also says death is not final. Death does not end our life forever. It is important to know what happens after death. Job asked the question, "If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14). Jesus Christ gave the answer when He said:

"Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live" (John 5:25). The apostle Paul further said, "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order; Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.... Behold I tell you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed -- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet" (1 Cor. 15:22-23, 51-52).

I am sure many here believe that Jesus will return soon when we can be reunited with our loved ones. Knowing that plan of God gives us comfort and joy instead of grief. We can look forward to the resurrection from the dead when Jesus returns to this earth with His gift of eternal life for those who loved and served Him.

My mother's body was buried this morning, but we can be assured of the fact that she will live again! Her spirit is safe in God's hands. As the prophet Isaiah said, the righteous are mercifully taken from this sinful world and from the evil to come (Isaiah 57:1).

May God be with you as you cope with losing another loved one.

The remainder of the service included a poem by Martha's granddaughter Sherry Sampson, another solo, a dissertation by Art Sather and comments from the audience. Martha's son-in-law, Harold Christensen, related how surprised she was when he and Julene turned up unexpectedly on their cruise ship. Even though the ship was already at sea, she said, "Are you staying for dinner?"



Martha Boraker

Martha Boraker went to be with her Lord and Savior on March 26, 2006, two days after her 94th birthday.

Martha was born of German parents, Emil and Emily Gesse, in a German community in Proszow, Poland, on March 24, 1912. She moved with her family when only three months old to Edmonton, Canada. Eight years later the family moved to Bellingham, Washington. There she graduated from Fairhaven High School in 1930, and married Eldon Boraker in 1933. Son, Robert, and daughter, Julene, were both born in Bellingham. In 1941 Martha, Eldon, and their two children moved to the Ballard area of Seattle, Washington. After retiring in 1972 Martha and Eldon moved to Everett.

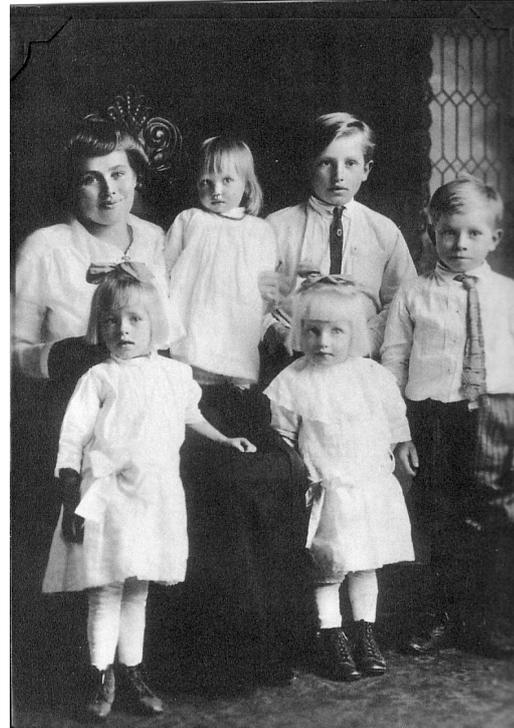
Martha was a member of Bethany Christian Assembly in Everett. In Seattle, Martha was an active member of The Philadelphia Church.

Martha is survived by her son, Robert (Margaret) Boraker, of St. Albans, England; daughter, Julene (Harold) Christensen, of Everett; sister, Lillian Waterhouse, of Everett; six grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to express a special thanks to the caregivers at New Horizon Adult Family Home for their loving care and to the Hospice Team for their kind assistance.

A family graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2006, at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Everett. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. that same afternoon, at Purdy & Walters with Cassidy.

(Everett Herald, April 1, 2006)



Emily (Lockstead) Gesse's Family
Front Row: Martha and Lillian



Eldon Boraker and Martha Gesse
Married on June 10, 1933