



Barbara Mertz

March 4, 2013

Barbara Mertz, age 93, died at Santa Fe Memory Care in Cleburne, Texas, on March 4, 2013. She went to be with her Lord Jesus Christ. She was born February 20, 1920, in Augusta, Maine, to Clarence L. Philbrick and Effie Mackinnon Philbrick. After attending Colby College in Waterville, Maine, she moved to Denver, Colorado, to work as a medical laboratory technician. While there she met Robert David Mertz. They were married in Trinidad, Colorado, on September 14, 1947. In 1952 she and her late husband, Dr. Robert Mertz, moved to Corsicana, Texas, where she resided for 60 years.

Barbara made a decision to accept Jesus Christ into her life in Dallas, Texas, during Explo 1972. She was a woman of strong faith who gave her whole life to the enrichment of others, her family, and her community in Corsicana. As an active, longstanding member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, she served in many capacities: Sunday school teacher, caregiver, & Elder. In 1981, the Church sponsored a Vietnamese family's relocation into Corsicana. Barbara was one of several people who gave daily assistance and support to The and Le Dinh and their 4 children for years following their arrival. The Dinhs became part of her heart and family. At one time she organized and led her own Bible study with a women's group in her home. She also served in countless community volunteer capacities over the course of 50 plus years: The March of Dimes, Kinsloe House, Food for Fitness, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Women's Medical Auxiliary, Meals on Wheels, to name a few. She was a friend and confidante of the elderly, making tireless

visits to nursing homes and caring for “the least of these.” She was active in several book clubs, Ladies Golf Association, and Community Bible study. Though her community service was outstanding, even more remarkable was her devotion to her family: her husband of 59 years, Robert Mertz; and her three very grateful and devoted children, Carolyn, John, and Bruce. Her children remember her as an avid letter writer whenever they were away from home; and a tireless supporter/cheerleader, always putting their needs first. She was a superb mentor and role model of a loving parent. As an avid homemade bread maker, Barbara gave away thousands of loaves to friends, family, and community members over the course of her life in Corsicana. These gifts were just a sampling of all the love and kindness shown to family and friends. Barbara demonstrated friendship to all, regardless of their race, religion, or beliefs.

She is survived by her brother, Leighton Philbrick and his wife, Barbara, from Portland, Maine, David Flood, her brother in law, of Friendship, Maine, and one sister, Jayne Davis of Massachusetts; a daughter, Carolyn Perna and husband, John, from Denver, Colorado; a son, Dr. John Mertz and wife, Andrea, from Rogers, Arkansas; a son, Dr. Bruce Mertz and wife, Mary, from Cleburne, Texas; 9 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. She is also survived by The and Le Dinh, their four children and four grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Corsicana, Texas at 2 PM on April 6, 2013. In lieu of flowers the family request that donations be made out to either Child Evangelism Fellowship of Navarro County, 117 Mall Drive, Corsicana, TX 75110; or to Denton Bible Church, 2300 E. University Dr., Denton, TX 76209 (with a note for Account No. 9774-01, Gaynelle Newport, who serves through Denton Bible mentoring African women in French speaking Africa).

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Mertz*

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *Dear Carolyn, John, Bruce and family members,
My deepest sympathy to the whole family. She was a truly caring,
loving, sweet & God loving woman. She touched many people
including me. I missed her.*

Amy McNiel (Sterling House of Corsicana)

Amy McNiel - April 02, 2013 at 06:41 PM



“ *Dear Carolyn, Bruce, John and family members,
Aunt Barbara was a very strong and kind person in my life, a person
whose gentleness could always be assured. Her constant support
for me as her nephew during my entire life time will always be
treasured and never forgotten. I wish that my children and grand
children could have felt her warm and caring personality. Both
Deborah and myself extend our deepest sympathy to all and we
know the strength of Barbara's calm reserve will carry you through
this most difficult time.*

Jim and Deborah Flood

Jim and Deborah Flood - March 11, 2013 at 02:03 PM

CR

“ Carolyn and Family,
Please accept my deepest sympathy for the loss of your beloved Mother. I will always remember her dressed in her pink hospital volunteer uniform. She was truly a loving, giving person and you are blessed to have had her in your lives. My thoughts and prayers are that you will feel God's presence and comfort during this time.
Cathy Watkins Rhyne

Cathy Rhyne - March 06, 2013 at 02:35 PM

CP

Cathy,
Thank you so much for your sweet thoughts and memories of Mom.....We will miss her forever, and your thoughtfulness about her will always be remembered. God bless you!!!
Sending you much appreciation and love, Carolyn Mertz Perna

Carolyn Mertz Perna - April 14, 2013 at 09:32 PM

BG

“ Our deepest sympathies to the entire Mertz family. You are in our prayers.
Mike and Belinda Gardner
Rogers, AR

belinda gardner - March 06, 2013 at 08:33 AM

TR

“ Sorry for the loss of such a beloved lady, I have heard many wonderful things about her from Doctor John Mertz, whom I work for. May God bless you all in this time of sorrow for your loss and happiness in knowing she is in heaven.

Tammy Requa
Rogers,AR

Tammy Requa - March 06, 2013 at 08:01 AM

TR

“ Sorry for your loss of such a wonderful lady. I have heard many wonderful things about her from Dr. John Mertz, whom I work for. I know she will be in all of your hearts forever with many happy memories. May God bless you all in this time of sadness in the loss of such a beloved lady and happiness in knowing she is happy and free from pain in heaven.

Tammy Requa
Rogers, AR

Tammy Requa - March 06, 2013 at 07:52 AM

SK

“ Bruce, I am sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was a woman of deep faith and loved her family. You and yours will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Suzanne Seale Kunze

Suzanne Seale Kunze - March 05, 2013 at 09:27 PM

FG

“ Dear Bruce and Family,
We extend our sympathy to you and all the family. God has been so faithful in all of the details.

"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in their spirit." Psalm 34:18

We love you all,
Stan and Freddia Gray

Freddia Gray - March 05, 2013 at 08:30 PM

MH

“ Carolyn, John, and Bruce, There is no doubt, the sweetest angel has been called to heaven. My mother always said that Barbara was a true angel on earth. I send my love and prayers.
Margaret Spikes Herman

Margaret Herman - March 05, 2013 at 06:27 PM

DI

“ We are fortunate to have Barbara touch our lives through her daughter Carolyn and her beautiful family, husband, children and grandchildren. Her spirit survives and we will be endlessly thankful for the life and heart she gave and shared that continues in our hearts and lives... *With Our Love, Bobby, Di and Family*

DiSki - March 05, 2013 at 03:10 PM