

August 2017

Hi guys,

Just a brief note about Aunt Mary's funeral and seeing everyone....

The family had gathered lots of Mary-photos that were on a continuous slide before the service...childhood pictures, wedding day, babies, Grandpa and Grandma, right up to lots of recent pictures, many featuring Mary and her grand-daughter Samantha.

Mary's service was filled with music. Sara recorded 2 songs, as well, a cousin on the Hein side also sang. The church was packed and the pastor got choked up while speaking of Mary... among other things said he will miss her lovely alto voice. Mary and Barty were instrumental in acquiring the church and Mary with the new prayer garden.

Cuzins Jean [and husband Rick] and Brent, and Brent's son also attended; I sat in the row of harmonizing singers. The doxology was the last song, and did that bring back memories.

I have attached one page that the family wrote and was included in the service bulletin...A Stroll through Mary's Garden.

A dinner was given at the fellowship hall after the service. After that we went to Mary's home and sat around with the Barty B's reminiscing...(I also did a little braiding.)

Sunday morning we returned for coffee and brunch before our departure. It wasn't easy to say our goodbyes.

Below is a link to images of Gwen's farm. I bet Bart and Mary loved it there.

<https://youtu.be/lqgJEmhDWAw>

-Amy

## A Stroll through Mary's Garden

Mary always had two gardens. A physical garden which consisted of a wide variety of flowers and plants as well as a spiritual garden that blossomed by her faith. She received so much joy from tending to her physical garden – adding to it and sharing seedlings with others. She knew just where to plant her garden, how much water and sunlight each plant should receive and how much individualized attention each plant would require in order to flourish.

This was also true about her spiritual garden which flourished through her love of her family and friends, singing, kindness, generosity, wit, time, and moxie for 76 years. Regardless of whether she was tending to her gardens in Baraboo, Penn Yan, or Hartselle, her faith and reliance on our Lord was the focal point.

Mary's garden started in Baraboo, WI December 8, 1940. Around 18 years later, on a blind date she met and then fell in love with a Dana College student and farmer at heart, Bart Borglum. On November 22, 1959, Mary and Bart were married and her garden expanded to Penn Yan, NY. Mary was a full-time mother and a true farmer's wife. She worked alongside her husband helping on the family farm. There was always work to be done, but there was also always time for fellowship, laughter, and singing. Mary treasured the time spent with fellow members of her church, nearby families and friends, members of the Danish Brotherhood, both her existing and her new extended family along with all their spouses and children, and of course time with her husband and their four children.

Before becoming a mother, Mary served others as a teacher's aide. After becoming a mother, Mary served others as the director of the children's choir at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. She was actively involved in her ladies prayer circle, the Dorcas Circle, and the Danish Brotherhood.

When the family moved to Alabama in August 1979, Mary's garden was once again transplanted. None of Mary's spiritual gardens were ever uprooted because God gave Mary the gift of being able to continue to nurture what she had planted even though it was hundreds of miles away and to establish new growth in a new location. The search for a church family was extremely important to Mary and Bart when they moved to Alabama. One Sunday the young family visited St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Decatur and they joined the congregation in singing the hymn "The Sevenfold Amen". Mary wept and thanked the Lord because He helped them find their new church home. Mary's garden blossomed and was enjoyed by all she met.

In her later years, Mary joined the Children's Rehabilitation Services team in Huntsville. She thrived while working there – serving others and creating lifelong friendships with her co-workers. The enjoyment she received from working with the children and their families was immeasurable. It was during this time that Mary's garden grew once more with the birth of her granddaughter, Samantha. Mary and Samantha were quite the duo – Gram and Sam.

Over time, Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church was established in Hartselle with Mary and Bart as charter members. Mary loved serving the Lord and others through her church. Whether she was singing hymns in praise and thanksgiving, knitting prayer shawls, making Chrismons, preparing German potato salad for the German Fest, gathering poinsettias or lilies for the sanctuary, lifting others up in prayer, or saying something sassy to lighten the mood, Mary loved serving and being an example of one who draws her strength from the Lord.

What a glorious garden Mary has planted, nurtured, and shared.