



Marybelle Smaha

June 5, 1920 - July 25, 2010

Marybelle Brookley Smaha, age 90, passed away Sunday, July 25, 2010, at her residence in Fremont.

Marybelle was born in Edgar, Nebraska, on June 5, 1920. She moved to Ravenna, Nebraska, in 1936 and met her high school sweetheart, Jack Warren Smaha. Marybelle and Jack were married in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Christmas Eve in 1941. They celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary in 2009. They moved to Alliance, Nebraska, in 1951. Marybelle had a great love of children and was a revered kindergarten teacher for thirty-three years. She was a member of Eastern Star and was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. She was gratified to receive an Honorary Life Membership award from the Presbyterian Church Women for her contributions to her church.

Preceded in death by her parents Marcia and Will Carleton "W.C." Brookley and her brother Charles C. Brookley

Survived by her loving husband of 69 years Jack

Daughters Diana (Rawson) Lloyd of Spearfish, South Dakota and Sandy (Dr. Greg) Young of Fremont

Son Daniel (Shelly) Smaha of Glide, Oregon

8 grandchildren

10 Great-grandchildren

6 nieces, 1 nephew, and 1 sister-in-law

Marybelle's faith in her Lord and Savior was a cornerstone of her life. She was blessed to receive Hospice services and die in her home, surrounded by her loving husband and family. The family will be celebrating Marybelle's long and joyful presence in their lives at their next family reunion.

Memorials may be sent to The First Presbyterian Alliance Church in Alliance, Nebraska, or sent to The Presbyterian Church in Fremont.

Comments



“ I was so sorry to hear of Marybelle's passing. She was a true lady and I loved everything about her from her kind warm personality, her smile, her wonderful tolerance of teenage girls, and her elegant voice. I was also so pleased that our son Brad had the privilege to have her as his kindergarten teacher. You all have a wealth of memories to keep Marybelle ever near and dear in your hearts. Your family is in my prayers that your faith in God's love and life everlasting brings you peace. With Sympathy,
Wanda Beiber

Wanda (Walston) Beiber - August 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My dear lady - how I learned from you. You were always gracious, gentle, and kind, and still, you were not a pushover. You and I went to Weight Watchers together in Alliance. You didn't dilly-dally around but got busy with the program and in a matter of weeks, you were successful and had reached your goal, whereas I was not. Frankly, I didn't know you even needed to, but that must be why you always looked so beautiful and well put together. Your photo remains on my bulletin board - the photo of all the "Chimes" newsletter helpers. Thank you for walking through MY life - you left a beautiful mark. You are missed.

Elaine Moore - August 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Our family lived by the Smaha's for years. When they moved away, It felt like the cornerstone of the neighborhood was gone. Mrs. Smaha was also my Knidergarten teacher. I will always remember how when she would hear a train passing by the school, and she knew it was the train her husband was working on, she would grab a kleenex box and give him a big wave. He would sound the engine's whistle back at her. I have always thought how romantic that was.
She was a very beautiful woman inside and out. She will be greatly missed. My sympathy to her loved ones.

Laura Kosmicki-Furrow - August 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ To Dan and Shelly,

I was sorry to hear of the passing of your mother-in-law, Shelly. (Having a hard time writing that...lol, should be Mrs. Smaha) I cannot express my sympathy enough. My prayers are with you and yours.

Julie (Cullan) Smith - August 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Deepest condolences to the Smaha family on their loss. I was fortunate to be in Mrs. Smaha's last kindergarten class in Alliance. As a Communications/Media Relations Director, the English language has always played an important role in my life. The interest started when Mrs. Smaha wrote the word "ain't" on a piece of paper. She held the paper high above the class and told us, "This is the word, which is not a word, that so many of you often use; ain't. This is what we are going to do with ain't." She went to a trash bin, dramatically tore the piece of paper into shreds and threw it into the trash! I never said ain't again. Thank you Mrs. Smaha for this and the many other lessons taught.

Matthew Peterson - August 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Jack and the Family. Our Prayers and thoughts are with you all.

Jerry and Linda Johannes

Jerry and Linda Johannes - July 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Marybelle's Family and Friends,

I have always loved Marybelle. After Charles died, I went to dinner one night at the Country Club with another couple. I felt sad to see the empty chair next to me. The next day I recieved a note from marybelle saying 'You look beautiful last night Jane. I know it was hard to see the empty chair, but you glowed alone and you will get along fine.' That note helped me so much I have been sucessfully alone for 15 years, thanks to Marybelle.

She will be missed,

Jane Brittan

Jane Brittan - July 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Jack & family, Marybelle was one of those wonderful people who put a smile on your face even when you thought about her. We will all miss her.
Pat & Lloyd Howell

Lloyd & Pat Howell - July 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM