



Alice Marie Sturtz

February 23, 1933 - May 23, 2020

Alice Marie McGuire Sturtz passed into the presence of the Lord on May 23, 2020, following several years of illness.

Born in Dennison, Ohio, on February 23, 1933, her parents (James and Rachel McGuire) and sisters (Irene and Helen) were the first to adore her.

The loss of Alice's mother on Christmas Day 1943 deeply shaped her life. Laura Mae Kerr McGuire became her stepmother, and her family relocated in 1945 to Coshocton, Ohio. Donald Sturtz immediately took note of this sweet new girl in town, never to love another.

Graduating from Coshocton High School in 1951, Alice pursued her RN degree at City Hospital of Akron School of Nursing. She practiced nursing in Baltimore, MD prior to marrying Ensign Don Sturtz on June 11, 1955.

Alice energetically committed herself to her new life as a Navy wife as Don trained, then served as a Navy carrier pilot for several years. Never one to miss an opportunity for adventure, Alice packed up her two young daughters (Jimalee and Janel), crossed the Atlantic on a freighter, and set up housekeeping in Cannes, France. She and Don explored France, Italy, and Greece when the USS Forrestal made ports of call!

Alice returned to nursing in 1961, making it possible for Don to attend medical school at The University of Pennsylvania. Following his graduation, Alice enthusiastically supported his endeavors and was rewarded serving Navy Doctors' Wives Clubs associated with numerous Naval Hospitals from San Diego to Washington, DC, as well as volunteering as a Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society counselor.

Alice's life was founded upon her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, established at a very early age. She gladly offered her life to worship and service; glorifying God and blessing many, most recently as an active member of Lewes Presbyterian Church in Lewes, DE.

Her gift of music was first exercised when she was asked to sing at church at age four! Choral directors gladly received her, whether at school, church, community chorale art

societies - and finally (one of the highlights of her life) with the Paul Hill Chorale, performing at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC for six seasons.

Alice was an exceptionally gifted hostess. Guests were delighted to be received in her home, thanks to thoughtful planning and lovely presentation of meals and events. Her Christ-like attitude made her a one-of-a-kind conversationalist; guests always felt so loved and special. Her well-timed wit and wisdom lifted hearts.

Alice's sense of order and administrative intuition gained her respect and admiration, making her a clear leader during her days of high school, nursing school, League of Women Voters, Navy Doctors' Wives Clubs, and in various roles at church throughout the decades.

Alice's love for God's Word was deepened by participation in Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) in California and Maryland. In 2001 it thrilled her heart to be instrumental in establishing a new BSF class for women in southern Delaware.

Alice endured several serious illnesses during her later years but persevered through pain and limitations with grace and faithfulness. She held to Psalm 62:1-2 - "My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken." and verses 5-8, "Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honor depend on God. He is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge."

Alice loved her Lord, His Word, and His Church. She was a patriot of her country. She cherished her precious husband of 64 years, and was so proud of her family. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Helen and Irene, and her absence will be sorely felt by those who survive her: faithful husband, Don, two daughters; Jimalee (Lyle) of Bridgeville, DE, and Janel (Rob) of Seaford, DE. Grandchildren: Janel Atlas of Christchurch, New Zealand, Lauren (Ryan) Garner of Manassas, VA, Julie (Matthew) Osborn of Fredericksburg, VA, Don (Amy) Humpton of North Hampton, NH, Tyler (Jenna) Humpton of Berlin, MA, Alice (Patrick) Johnson of San Diego, CA, Addie (Matthew) Melvin of Wilmington, DE, and James Hemmen of Philadelphia, PA.; and 16 great-grandchildren.

"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Prov. 31:28-29

Interment at Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a later date.

Please sign the online guestbook located on the tribute page.

Comments



“ My Aunt Alice was truly a beautiful lady. She was funny and sweet, giving and very kind. She had such a beautiful laugh and a beautiful singing voice. It was always so nice over the years to hear her sing with my cousins. Now, she is singing praises in heaven right in the presence of Jesus! I know where she is, so this gives me great comfort. Because the Lord used her as one of the people that were instrumental in pointing me to Him, I know I will see her again.

God bless her memory and bless our family until we meet again.

Janeen

Janeen - June 13 at 04:27 PM



“ Don, and family,

I just read about Alice's passing. I know this must be a terrible loss for you and your family. Alice has a wonderful faith as do you, and I now pray that God's angels may surround you and give you all comfort. I know you will be together again some blessed day.

My thoughts and prayers are with you, always.

Tom Smailes.

Thomas Smailes - June 01 at 04:58 PM



“ The world has lost a beautiful ray of sunshine but there is no doubt that Alice is already loving her home with Jesus. You are & will be so missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing you. Sturtz Family, thank you for sharing this wonderful lady with us.

Lutie Davis

Lutie E Davis - May 29 at 02:17 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Alice Marie Sturtz.



May 28 at 04:55 PM



“ Dear Don and family:
I remember the first time I met Alice. It was at our home, hosting the family reunion. Alice gave me a gift of a pretty weaved serving tray. It was such a lovely gesture from a lovely lady! I enjoyed talking with her! Heaven has another wonderful Angel that will help God watch over you all. May his loving arms be around you and give you strength and peace!

Chris Laner - May 28 at 09:22 AM



“ Mr. Don Sturtz and family as well as your friends of LPC, I was saddened to hear of Alice's passing but then as all Christians know that she is smiling As she always did and she has no more trials nor pain to bear. Alice was such a loving great woman of God! She got her promotion! Hallelujah! She awaits the day when you will join her in such a glorious eternal mansion home. God bless you as you go forth day by day without her presence! God bless each of your family as well.

Doris Best-Kroeger - May 27 at 09:12 PM



“ Thinking of you today, Dr. Sturtz & family, as you celebrate Mrs. Sturtz' life together. What an incredible tribute to her life & praise service to her Lord you've planned. Please know I am loving all of you from NM. Wish I could attend. I know your prayer to end the service will be meaningful & moving. May God comfort you & bless you as you walk thru the healing days ahead.

Dr. Annette Haynes - May 28 at 08:51 AM



“ Don,

Just saw the notice in the Post and I am so sorry to read of Alice's death. What a good and wonderful woman she was. She made those Navy years doable for all of us. Mac and I enjoyed you two so much, a perfect couple. May God bless you and your family
in the days and years to come.

Ellie McCurley
(Mac d. (2-04-06)

Ellie McCurley - May 27 at 08:13 PM



“ Don, Jimalee and Janel,
Was so sorry to hear of Alice's passing. She was such a warm and loving woman. I always looked so forward to speaking with her at our family reunions! May God wrap you in his loving arms!

MK Laner - May 27 at 07:01 PM



“ Love and prayers for you Don and your family.

Irwin and Janet Jennings

Irwin Jennings - May 27 at 11:53 AM



“ Don,

Lois and I send sincere condolences to you and to your Family. As we discussed on the telephone we are fortunate to have shared many fond memories over fifty years. We send our thoughts and prayers to you,

Norm

Norman and Lois Rich - May 27 at 09:46 AM



“ Don, Carol and Bruce Custis extend our deepest sympathies for the loss of your beloved wife, Alice. We thank you, Don, for letting us know of Alice's passing - that was very kind and no doubt difficult.

Dad always looked forward to seeing you two when we were in Dewey. To this day, he carries deep and lifelong memories of you both. Besides being a devoted wife and mother, she was a truly remarkable lady in her own right.

We know that Alice will be missed by all whose life she graced. You both will always be in our hearts and prayers.

Bruce Custis - May 26 at 01:52 PM