



Grayce Ellen Vanerio

September 25, 1932 - February 23, 2014

Grayce Vanerio September 25, 1932 February 23, 2014 Grayce took the hand of God in the early hours of Sunday, February 23rd, peacefully leaving this earth. She was loved by many and will be missed by all. She joined her husband Bud, parents Margaret and Bob, and all other friends and relatives who preceded her. Grayce grew up in Chicago, IL on Mozart Street with her younger brother Jon and her dear friends Bev and Patty. From an early age, Grayce was a leader/organizer, and displayed an unending love for children. In fact, she met her husband Bud Vanerio because she was the babysitter for his younger brother and sister. Bud and Grayce married in 1952 at Grace Church in Chicago. They were an outgoing couple with strong friendships. They were always connecting with relatives and friends from high school, church, work, and the neighborhood. Grayce was an amazing leader, orchestrating vacation bible schools, Sunday school, and her high school class reunions. They raised four children, and then in 1984, with a newly empty nest, they moved to Grapevine, TX when Bud accepted a promotion. They loved Grapevine, and quickly became "Texans". While Mom waited patiently for grandchildren, she immersed herself into the Preschool at their church in Texas. She was "Miss Grayce" and was so proud of all those children. She contributed 19 years at the school. Once again, Bud and Grayce cultivated deep and lasting friendships in Texas. Their favorite activity was traveling, and Bud and Grayce saw the world. They loved to meet people from all countries and cultures, including Japan, Turkey, Egypt, Panama, and all

over Europe. In fact, they even spent several weeks in China teaching English to Chinese students a highlight in their lives. In the later years Grayce battled dementia, but her true spirit of love and graciousness was always present. She touched the lives of so many, and she will live in our hearts forever. She is survived by her brother Jon Dickson, son Marc Vanerio and wife Robin, daughter Gale Graeff and grandson Gary Graeff, daughter Janis Jasinsky with husband Jeff and grandson Trevor, and son Matt Vanerio with granddaughter Amber. You are invited to share a special memory of Grayce. Thanks to all for your love and support. If so compelled, a donation to the Alzheimer's Association would be an amazing way to honor Grayce.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 07:39 PM

PR

“ *Just today, I finally caught up on my emails when I saw that Grayce had gone Home. My heart had a mix of emotions...sadness...joy...and loving memories. The first time I met Grayce was at the local Backdoor Theater in Grapevine Texas where she was gladly handing out pamphlets about the play. Of course, her talented Bud was a member of the cast, and she was proud to indicate who his character was. I introduced myself as Bud's hairstylist, and she promptly ushered me to the best seats in the house. Grayce had a gift of making everyone feel like they were the only ones in the room. I had wished that I could have had more interaction with Grayce, but I was updated each and every month for over 20 years when Bud would come for his haircuts. I was always charmed by his loving concern and interests in all that Grayce was doing. God must have chosen and ordained her name "Grayce", because she lived up to the meaning of it each and every day.*

Pam Richards - May 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ We met Grayce during the time she was teaching in our church's pre-school program. Our two oldest grandsons were students there. Both of the boys loved Miss Grayce. She had a special gift for interacting with children and bringing out the best in all of them. Grayce and Lola delivered Meals on Wheels together for over 15 years and then had lunch together. Since neither of them had a good sense of direction, they had a lot of laughs about it. Finding a new client's home was always a challenge. Each month six couples, one of whom was Grayce and Bud, would enjoy dinner followed by bridge. Grayce, with her boundless energy, will always be remembered for being the first to help clean up the dishes. We will always remember Grayce as a very special friend who brought laughter and fun into our lives and all those whom she touched.

Jeff and Lola Stark - April 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Loved my Aunt Grayce! Have so many wonderful memories of our visits to Chicago when I was a kid. She always made you feel special. I know that her and Bud and Margaret are up to their old tricks, keeping everyone in heaven entertained!

Sheila Johnson - March 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ I met Grayce shortly after joining First Pres Grapevine. She was very welcoming and made me feel at home. I later served on an education committee with her, and she was so helpful and willing to do anything she could to help me. I knew I could always count on her. She was so kind and such a wonderful person.

Frank McDonald - March 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ It was our great pleasure to have know Grayce and Bud since 1999 when we joined FPCGV. It was always heartwarming to see young adults approach Grayce to say hello, give her a big hug, and then introduce a new love or even a new baby. Certainly she is permanently in the hearts of all us but especially the wonderful kids who had the priviledge to know her as a teacher. I'm certain that today Grayce is busy organizing an event for the preschoolers in heaven or possibly a bridge game. Our deepest sympathy to her family as you have reached the end of this long goodbye. In Christian Love, Joanne & Paul Haefeli

Joanne Haefeli - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ When I moved back to the DFW area and we settled in with our five year old twins to First Pres, Grayce was one of the shining first faces who embraced all of us. Miss Grayce was a Sunday School teacher to my children, but she was far more than that. She was a loving joyful presence. I began driving for Meals on Wheels shortly after coming to the church. Grayce was one of the ladies who showed me the ropes for she had been serving in this way for some time. Later she and I served together on the education committee. As always Grayce brought her joyful charm to our meetings. And she had smiles and compliments always for Rick in his roles in the music life of our church. What a marvelous lady was our Grayce Vanerio. She leaves a legacy of love and devotion.

Dee and Rick Walsh - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ So many precious memories of Bud and Grayce. They were the first couple we got to be friends with at church. While preparing our Townhouse for occupancy, and no furniture yet to arrive, and this day being our Anniversary, Bud and Grayce appeared with a delicious meal to celebrate with us; complete with a tablecloth which we spread on the floor, and wine for toasting the event. We shared much fun and love with them over the years, and miss them greatly. Rod and Belle Reincke p.s. We can you hear Bud now, "Where've you been Grayce, Margaret I have been waiting for you!"

Rod & Belle Reincke - March 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ I enjoyed my time with Grayce whether it was playing bridge or attending any one of the other events that she frequently hosted. Grayce and Bud were positive and supportive people. I cherish the memory of their love and care. I can still hear Grayce's laugh and it makes me smile.

Linda McKinnon - February 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Grayce's beautiful smile and loving nature will be greatly missed.

L T & Julie Aylor - February 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Dear Vanerio Family, hello. I am so very sorry for your loss. I hope that the condolences sent your way will be of some comfort to you. Please take great care! Rhonda mov1315@yahoo.com The faithful man Job said: If an able-bodied man dies can he live again? . . . You will call, and I myself shall answer you. For the work of your hands you will have a yearning. (Job 14:14, 15) This denotes Gods earnest longing and desire. (Genesis 31:30; Psalm 84:2) Clearly, God must keenly anticipate the resurrection. Can we really believe the resurrection promise? Yes, there is no doubt that God and his Son are both willing and able to fulfill it. What does this mean for you? You have the prospect of being reunited with dead loved ones right here on earth but under very different conditions!

Rhonda - February 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Miss Grayce watched over my children at our church preschool, from the time they were 2 year olds to the day they "graduated" to Kindergarten. Even close to retiring from the school, she was still so active and energetic--I remember her running between the school and carline, bringing the little ones out and leading them safely to their cars. She is remembered fondly by all who knew her through the First Presbyterian Church and preschool, and we all miss her deeply.

Mindy Hill - February 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ I have wonderful memories of your Mother and Grandmother, for I met them on their cruise to Alaska. Your Mom and Dad visited me in Nova Scotia when I lived there, so I feel very connected to your family. I hope you will find strength in each other at this time of great loss. May your memories of your Mom support you. You are in my prayers.

Margaret Taylor - February 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ I have been a longtime friend of Grayce's daughter, Janis, since we were toddlers. My parents went to high school with her & we attended the same church. My most treasured memories of "Mom" were when I was in Sunday School at Grace United Church of Christ in Chicago as a young child. She & Grandma Dixon were a huge part of the Sunday School program. Their unconditional love for all the children shined through in the work they did for our Lord! What a beautiful example for us. Also, "Mom" took me for my drivers ed test with her very own car on my birthday! These are memories that I will always treasure. Continued prayers & love for her family.

Janise Semenic Voll - February 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM