

# With the LORD



**Banek**, Marylyn Faye (**Grimshaw**, HS '65) was 75 when she went to be with the Lord. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Marylyn spent many years helping in women's ministries at the Phoenix Safe House, volunteered at the Dream Centre and served on the Medicine Hat Transit Board.

**Bauch**, Maybeth Jean (**Muir**, HS '51, BC u'56) was married to Alvin for 62 years, and served beside him for 58 years with Child Evangelism Fellowship and Gospel Ministries to Children. She was 84 when she

was called home on January 26, 2019.

**Bellamy**, Ruth (former staff '82-'88, '91-94) met her husband Wilf at Millar Memorial Bible School and they were together 55 years. She was 87 when the Lord welcomed her to her heavenly home on August 18, 2022.

**Berthelsen**, Mary Pauline (BC '44) spent 35 years as a missionary in India until 1982. It was there that she met Einer. They were married in 1957 and were together 61 years. At 98, she entered into her eternal rest on February 27, 2020.



**Brown**, Nancy Faith (**Freeman**, HS '54, BC u'65) finished her degree at Cedarville University in 1969. She married Bruce Brown and served as a pastor's wife from 1976 in South Berwick, ME. Her laughter and trained soprano voice would touch many as she

ministered unto the Lord. She graduated to new life in heaven on the last day of 2022, a few days shy of her 77<sup>th</sup> birthday.

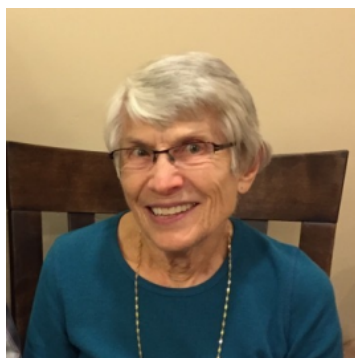


**Conley**, Eileen Patricia (**Elliott**, BC '55), 88, was ushered into the presence of her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on September 21, 2018. Her radical conversion to follow Christ in 1947 led her to Prairie, then Biola School of Missionary Medicine. She spent three years serving in Peru before a 56-year marriage with Joseph. They helped establish La Iglesia Hispana de Boca Raton in South Florida.

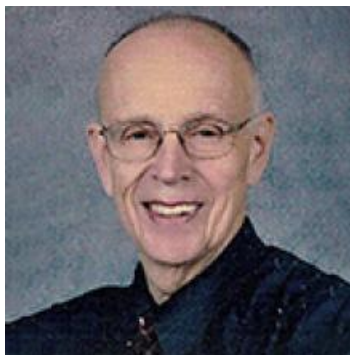


**Conley**, Barbara Josephine (**Graves**, HS u'58) completed her

education in Missouri where she met and married the love of her life, Jack, in 1960. She was an active member of Shadow Hills Church in Las Vegas before her health began to fail. Her promotion to heaven occurred on December 7, 2022.



**Dennis**, Lorraine Fay (**Peterson**, BC u'54) peacefully entered the presence of the Lord on July 21, 2022. She had already received her Registered Nursing designation before attending Prairie, and continued as a nurse while her husband, Hugh (HS '50, BS '54), taught. Her ministry was caring for others, especially her family and through supporting radio broadcasts of the Gospel.

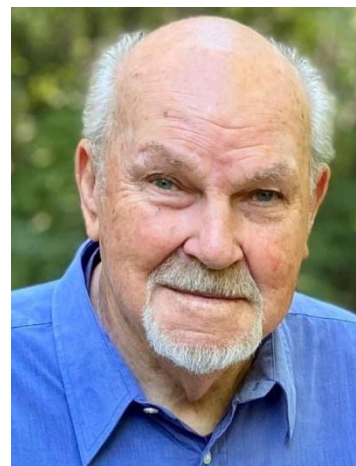


**Doerksen**, Gerry B. (HS '52, BC '57) entered eternal rest on October 2, 2022, at age 88. Though born with rickets, with prayer and good parenting, Gerry grew strong, physically and spiritually. Even through three brain tumor surgeries, Jesus comforted him. He earned his BA, B. Ed, and M. Ed. from U of M to become a teacher and later principal. He then earned a PhD from U of A in 1978 because of his interest in the interaction of Christianity and psychology.

**Dolby**, Ruth Joan (BC u'62) followed the example of her missionary parents to serve in Jamaica, First Nations communities, and Knollwood Baptist Church. She had a heart for the young and marginalised. She passed peacefully into the arms of her Saviour on March 11, 2023, in her 82<sup>nd</sup> year.

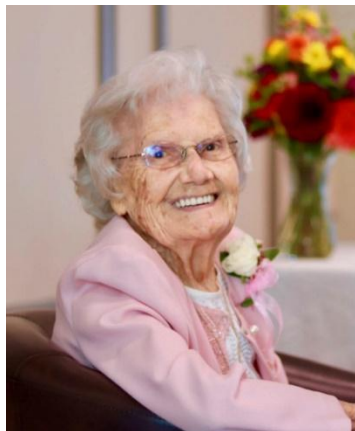


**Driedger**, Helen Irene (**Gossen**, BC u'54) greeted her Father in heaven on October 28, 2022, at the age of 96. She met Peter in Dalmeny, SK. They married in 1946 and spent 71 years together. She loved teaching and they were very active in their church.



**Dvorak**, Donald James (BC '72) was 92 when he passed into the presence of the Lord on August 31, 2022. While in the US Navy, he saw action in Korea as an electrician's mate. In 1953, he married Florence and worked for Beatrice Foods for 38

years. In 1957, he gave his life to Jesus and was 42 when he graduated from Prairie.



**Franz**, Helene (**Janzen**, BC u'41) had lived a long and rich life of 102 years when she slipped into eternity on November 26, 2022. She met her husband, Jacob (BC '40), at Prairie and served with him in Paraguay for 25 years. Though she grieved his passing in 1978, for the next 40 years Helene would travel with her family and continue demonstrating the unconditional, never-ending love of God.



**Goertzen**, Larry Stephen (BC '78) and Patricia Joy met at TWU and were married in 1983. Larry had a knack for teaching, homeschooling their three children and assisting Teen Challenge. Patricia's sudden passing on November 24, 2019, was especially difficult. She was devoted to fostering relational care in her family and as Executive Director at Hands In Service. Larry was battling prostate cancer, Parkinson's disease, and vascular dementia before his passing on December 8, 2022. He was 66, she 56.



**Green**, Grace Eleanor (**Rachar**, HS '76) entered her eternal home on September 25, 2022. She and her husband Wayne were together 58 years. She loved her neighbours, being generous with after-school treats and gracious in service to His church.



**Hanson**, Ronald Stanley (HS u'66) attended Prairie while his dad, Sandy (BC '42, former staff '45-'72), was on staff. After receiving degrees in Arts and



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Education from U of A, Ron began teaching in Granum, AB, from 1979 to 2007. He also served on town council and one term as mayor. His love for the community also led to his involvement in the local Lutheran Church.



**Hochstedler**, Lydia Mae (BC u'67) took up residence in heaven on November 23, 2022, at age 93. She took LPN training in La Junta, CO, along with further training at Baylor University. She served 6 years as a nurse among First Nations in Ontario and a year in Costa Rica.



**Ichikawa**, Ben (former faculty '82-'84) leaves behind his faithful and caring wife of 56 years, Shoko and two daughters. He taught at PBI for two years, and was a pastor at Bethel Evangelical Missionary Church. His heart and passion was the ministry of Christian missions, including ACTION International..

**Jaeger**, Edwin Harry (BC u'53, GS u'91, and former faculty '84-95) moved into his eternal home with Jesus on January 24, 2023. He was 92. He served God as a missionary in Iran and Tajikistan, as a teacher, and as a translator of the Bible into Farsi. He was married to Belle for over 50 years.



**Johnson**, Bea May (BC '60) went to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, January 15, 2023, at age 85. She spent most of her life in Vauxhall, AB, where she lived out her passion for teaching until poor health forced an early retirement. Still, she continued attending church to her last day.



**Johnson**, Ernest "Gordon" William (HS '46, BC '49) was 95 when he was called home to Jesus on April 17, 2023. The years at Prairie were extremely significant to him; he met

and married the love of his life, Grace (BC u'50), in 1950. He was a lifelong student, including a Doctor of Ministry in Missiology. He served at the Rio Grande Bible Institute of Edinburg, TX, as teacher, academic dean, president, and president emeritus from 1954 to 2020. He also wrote twelve books, four in English and eight in Spanish.

**Kaylor**, Phyllis (**Poe**, BC u'51) attended Prairie for two years. Along with her husband Leo, she spent 70 years as a missionary in Japan before returning to Sandpoint, ID. Together they wrote their autobiography, [Unto a Land That I Will Show You](#). She entered her eternal rest on March 14, 2023.

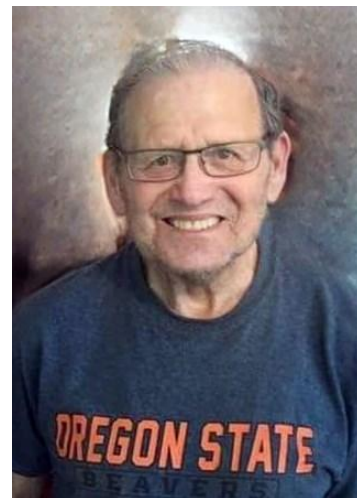


**Knuth**, Alice Jean (**Grant**, HS '45, BC '48) was surrounded by loved

ones when she met her Saviour on December 18, 2022, at age 97. She met her husband Robert at Young Life in Salem, OR. In 1958 they raised their five children in Minidoka, ID, before returning to Salem in 1978. She had a passion for reading her Bible and attending First Baptist Church in Salem.



**Krahn**, Ellen B. (**Metzger**, BC '77, '04) devoted her life to Christ and ministered to everyone around her, whether serving at home or from El Salvador to Tanzania and everywhere in between. She leaves behind her best friend and loving husband of 46 years, David, as well as a large and cherished family. She peacefully entered the presence of her Lord at her home in Elmira, ON on April 18, 2023 at the age of 73.



**Lambert**, Lloyd (BC u'61) was a Navy veteran when he attended one year at Prairie. In 1961, he married fellow alum Marilyn (**Wilkinson**, BC '61) and the two of them started their home in Albany. They eventually moved their four children to Jefferson, OR, where they remained until Lloyd's passing on November 12, 2022, at 86 years of age. A long-time member of Calvary Community Church, Lloyd served the Lord there in different volunteer roles. After a 36 year career as an inspector, he enjoyed his retirement as an avid bowler, cyclist, hiker, and camper with his family.

**Landis**, Mark (BC u'55) left his earthly home of San Sebastián el Grande, MX, and entered his heavenly home with his Saviour in the early hours

of February 11th, 2023. Mark and his wife, Carole, spent over 65 years serving as missionaries, first as church planters in Honduras, then settling in Guadalajara, MX, to start Campamento La Roca in 1987 and La Roca Bible Institute in 1988. [Both were honoured by FIM in late 2021.](#) Mark leaves behind three loving children and countless people impacted by his ministries.

**Lockwood**, Deanna (BC '63, former staff '63-'15) grew up in Nebraska and after attending one year at Trinity Christian College in Illinois, she transferred to Prairie. Upon graduating in 1963, Deanna joined the staff and served in various roles in the mail room, music department, and library through the years. She was on staff at Prairie for 52 years; only L.E. Maxwell and Ruth Dearing served longer. She was active in the community of Three Hills, and is dearly missed by nieces, nephews, extended family members, and many friends. She passed into eternity on October 19, 2022, at 83 years old.



**Lynn**, Jeannie Karen (**Beam**, HS '63, BC u'64) peacefully entered her heavenly home on January 13th, 2023. She was 82 years old. Faithful wife of Gerry for over 55 years, beloved mother of two, and grandmother of many, Jean was most importantly a lifelong lover of Jesus. She joyously shared the love of Jesus in everything she did, from organising every detail around her to embarking on short-term missions trips to Africa with Gerry in their retirement.



**Martin**, Nola Deloris (**Dunning**, BC '48) passed away on June 1, 2019, at

the age of 92. She accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour in high school, and went on to attend Bible college in Minneapolis and graduated from Prairie in 1948. That same year, she married her husband Don. They went on to serve in five separate pastorates in North Dakota and Minnesota, through which Nola taught Sunday school and VBS on top of her roles as homemaker and mother of four children. She served her community in many ways, including as a foster parent alongside Don for 27 years. Nola passed just days before her and Don's 71st wedding anniversary.



**Mihailitchenko**, Galina (BC u'84) was born in Ukraine during the Holodomor, and survived WWII by escaping the Soviet Union with her parents to Denmark and



then Argentina at 16 years old. She is remembered for her vibrant personality and deep love for her Saviour, family, friends, and passion for teaching the Russian language. She spoke seven languages fluently and worked as a missionary with Trans World Radio in translation, writing, producing, and recording radio programs. In 1974, Galina and her daughter, Liza, moved to Three Hills where Galina fell in love with Prairie. She resided as a beloved community member and friend of the college until her passing on November 4, 2022, at the age of 90.



**Murphy**, Marianne Louise (BC '82) passed away at just 65 years of age on October 6, 2022. Born in Washington state, Marianne was an authentic and

compassionate lover of Christ. After a summer mission trip to Japan, Marianne decided to train as a missionary at Prairie upon graduating with her BA in Biology in WA. From here, she went on to serve with OMF in Japan for 26 years before her health forced her to return to Washington in 2011. There, Marianne was an active member of Hillcrest Church in Bellingham. She faithfully prayed for people around the world and shared the love of Jesus until the end.



**Patchin**, Agnes "Jean" (Weeks, HS '57, BC '63) went home to Jesus at the age of 83 on December 8, 2022. After graduating from Prairie she went on to become a nurse and worked for many years at the GI Veterans Home. Despite living through the passing of two husbands, Jean

was known for her great sense of humour and storytelling.



**Pendergast**, Doris (Clarke), met her husband, Ken (HS '48, BC '51) at Prairie when they were in Junior High. The pair married in 1951 and moved to Edmonton, where they started a family in 1957. The family eventually settled in Calgary in 1967. Doris was completely dedicated to her family and is missed dearly. She followed Ken to heaven on October 19, 2022, at the age of 91.



**Reimer**, Gerald Frank (BC '58) lived a life wholly

devoted first to Jesus, and second to his family. He and his wife, June, raised two children and eventually welcomed several grandchildren. From working in the family trucking business to volunteering at his church in Winnipeg, Gerald was known as a kid at heart with a passion for sharing Jesus with everyone he met. He also served on the board for Providence University College (then called Winnipeg Bible College) for over 20 years. Gerald peacefully met his Saviour in heaven on July 16, 2022, at 84 years old.



**Schmautz**, Len Richard (BC u'52) was 88 years old when he entered his eternal rest on January 30th, 2019, following just three months after his beloved wife, Grace. Despite facing many hardships and losses in his life, Len's legacy is one marked by obedience to God. He

worked for the City of Edmonton through finishing his degree at Northwest Bible College. Eventually Len and Grace followed God's call to pastor churches all over Alberta, Washington, and Idaho, having raised four children along the way.



**Sept**, Marion Kay (**Logan**, HS '52, BC u'53) and her family moved to Three Hills, where Marion graduated from Prairie High School and met her husband, Oswald. The pair moved around B.C., raising two children and faithfully attending church wherever they went, with Marion often teaching Sunday School. She leaves behind a legacy of loving children, dogs, her family, and most importantly loving her Saviour. Marion was 88 when she went home to be with Jesus on July 25, 2022.



**Strom**, Sylvia Agnes (HS '62, BC '66) was a life-long learner, educator, and lover of Jesus. After graduating from Prairie, she received her degree in education with a math major from the University of Lethbridge. She travelled extensively, teaching both at home in Alberta and as a missionary in Venezuela. Sylvia leaves behind a large extended family and many friends who will miss her letters and calls. She was welcomed into the arms of her Saviour at the age of 78 on January 11, 2023.



**Vert-Hazel**, Florence Ethel (**Thompson**, BC u'54, former staff) had a deep faith which



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sustained her until she met her Saviour in heaven on June 24th, 2020. She and her first husband, Joe Vert (BC u'54, former staff) moved to Three Hills in 1953. They ended up as Prairie staff and stayed until Joe's retirement 30 years later. Florence held several jobs on campus, but ultimately made homemaking and hosting college students her main ministries. After Joe's passing in 1991, she found love again and married Gerry Hazel in 2002.



**Verwer**, George (founder of OM and a friend) finished his journey at the age of 84 on April 14, 2023. Mark Maxwell offered [a tribute to George](#) about their friendship after Mark's parents died in a car accident, and prayed, "Father, grant us more Georges."

**Will**, Dorothea Elfriede (BC '81) was just 58 years old when she was welcomed home by Jesus on June 9, 2018. In addition to graduating from Prairie, she obtained a degree in English and Music at Wilfred Laurier University. She served as a choir director and organist at churches in her home of Kitchener, ON. Dorothea was an avid tennis player and a lover of God and music. She leaves behind many friends and family across Canada.



**Wiebe**, Helen Martha (**Kroeker**, BC '55, former staff '72-95) followed her husband, Abe (BC '55, former staff) to heaven on November 21, 2022. They spent 67 years together, having raised 5 children and loved many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and several "adopted" Prairie students they welcomed into their home. Martha

volunteered at the Tilly Thrift Shop in Three Hills for over 40 years, and blessed every person she met there with her servant heart.