



*If Tears Could Build a Stairway,
and Memories a Lane, I'd Walk
Right Up to Heaven and Bring
You Home Again.*

Dora L. Burich • March 7, 1920 — July 10, 2007

We have lost a truly remarkable mother, grandmother and friend to so many.

Dora L. Burich was born in Castlewood, VA on March 7, 1920. She went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, July 10, 2007

Dora grew up in Loyall, KY, graduating Loyall High School when she was just 16. In 1987, she returned to her alma mater where she received the Alumni of the Year award. At 17, Dora enrolled in the Bethesda School of Nursing in Cincinnati, OH and received her diploma in 1940. During the early days of World War II, she enlisted in the Army Air Corps and became an air evacuation nurse, tending to wounded soldiers and living all over the world. She also served during the Korean Conflict.

During her nearly 15-year military career, Dora lived in Iceland, Paris, Hawaii, the Azores, Saudi Arabia and Japan, where in 1952 she met a dashing young B-24 fighter pilot, Joseph Burich, whom she married January 18, 1956 in Austin, TX. She was honorably discharged from the United States Air Force on August 28, 1956.

They moved to San Diego in 1958. Dora gave up her distinguished military career, because more than anything else, she wanted children.

She is survived by those children: Patricia (Trish) McNeece and her husband Mike of El Centro; Pamela and Eric Frischmuth of West Chester, OH; Paula Burich and her companion, Scott Heimer of San Diego; Penelope (Penny) Burich and her companion Richard Pledger of San Diego; Myra and Dan Kurz of Rancho Santa Fe and Phillip and Diane Burich of Kyle, TX. She also leaves behind seven grandchildren who loved her dearly; Alex Kurz; Blake and Lori Burich; Ross and Greear Frischmuth and Lindsey and Patrick McNeece. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Pat Large of San Diego and numerous nieces and nephews. She was pre-deceased by her beloved husband Joe in 2004.

Dora's nursing career spanned more than 50 years. After moving to San Diego, she worked at Sharp Memorial Hospital, was the Director of Nursing at Clairemont Hospitals, worked at Centre City Hospital and retired from Mission Bay Hospital.

Besides her family, Dora loved playing blackjack and having friends over to visit. She was the consummate hostess. There was always room at the table for one more and Christmas Eve was a favorite in the Burich household. She not only opened her home but also her heart to a number of her daughters' friends who needed a place to stay and some encouraging words. She loved them as if they were her own and many of them called her mom.

The family would like to thank Elidora (Dora) Perez Ramirez for the wonderful care she provided to Dora for five years and the staff of Sharp Hospice Care for their support of the family during her final days.

The family would like to thank Monsignor Sheahan, Father Hopkins, the Late Mary Jo Reading, Mary Jo & Tom Mathis and Our Mother of Confidence Parish for all of their support, prayers, masses and home visits.

A small memorial service with full military honors will be held at El Camino Mortuary, 5600 Carroll Canyon Rd., Tuesday, July 17 at 12Noon.

A larger Celebration of Life and luncheon is set for Noon Saturday, August 4 at the home of Dan and Myra Kurz - 5725 Loma Verde, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067. Please call (858) 759-5231 for directions.

Friends are invited to attend one or both services. Please call (619) 225-1301 or email Paula Burich at pgburich@aol.com for directions.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Southern Caregiver Resource Center, 3675 Ruffin Rd., Suite 230, San Diego, CA 92123.

Dora L. Burich

CELEBRATION OF LIFE
FOR
DORA FRANCES LARGE BURICH

ON
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH
AT 12:00 NOON

AT
THE HOME OF:

MYRA AND DAN KURZ
5725 LOMA VERDE
RANCHO SANTE FE, CA 92067
HOME: 858-759-5231
CELL: 406-249-6708

DIRECTIONS FROM SAN DIEGO:

Take Interstate 5 North to Lomas Santa Fe Exit,
Turn Right on Lomas Santa Fe;
Lomas Santa Fe becomes Linea Del Cielo
Follow Linea Del Cielo all the way into downtown
Rancho Santa Fe
Turn Left on Avenida de Acacias
Turn Left on Loma Verde, Loma Verde deadends
Myra and Dan's House is on the left, 2nd house
from end, 5725 Loma Verde

Dora Francis Large Burich
Granny Dodo

My "dear, sweet, beautiful, lovely mother-in-law"

"Queenie"

REFLECTIONS on knowing her for 30 years...27 of those having been as my mother-in-law.
"Oh, I'm hangin' in there..."

How many times have we heard that? A lot.

How many times could she have answered that she's not doing too well, or that she's hurting, or that life's not fair, or there's too much to do, or... A lot. But, she didn't.

How many times has she done for others when she could have been doing for herself? A lot.

How many times did she come home from working all night to care for her own mother? A lot.

How many times did she suffer through Rush Limbaugh or Oliver North, or other conservative representatives to appease Joe? A lot.

How many times did she write a check to deserving causes or to others who needed it more than she did? A lot.

How many lives of young soldiers wounded in battle during WWII did she impact and save as a flight nurse around the globe? A lot.

How many places in the world did she get to see in that same capacity, while serving her country? A lot.

How many stories could she tell and share about those experiences? A lot.

How many times has she shocked us with some of those stories? Enough!

How many times has she challenged others to make more of themselves, and helped them attain it? A lot.

How many great meals has she prepared and served while not sitting down to the table herself? A lot.

How many big wet full-lip kisses has she given in her lifetime? A lot.

How many "goody boxes" has she sent to those who were away from home serving their country or otherwise "alone" somewhere? A lot.

How many Manhattans has she choked down in her life? A few.

How many red dresses has she worn in her lifetime? A lot.

How much value did she place on a good education? A lot.

How much did she spend on good education for others? A lot.

How much value and love did she place on her family and friends? A lot.

How many times has she asked about how her Grandkids and other family members are doing? A lot

How much has she influenced all of us who know her, whether we realize it or not? A lot.

How much are we going to miss her and be thankful to have had her as a part of our lives? A lot.

I'm thinking that her life has been a lot more than just "Oh, I'm hangin' in there..."

Trish, Pam, Paula, and Penny, Ross, Greear, Lindsey, and Patrick, Mike, Todd, Scott, We have all been blessed by her presence in our lives. We are all better people for what she's done for each of us. We owe her more than a little bit for her influence, support, and love. In fact, we owe her...A LOT.

Queenie, thanks for your daughter, Pam. Thanks for being a wonderful grandmother to our children.

Thanks for all the behind the scenes work on our behalf, and most of all, thanks for being my friend.

God Bless you and Thank You!

Written by: Eric Frischmuth

March 7, 1920 - July 10, 2007

This Little Light of Mine (performed by Mary Jo & Tom Mathis)

In Paradisium (performed by Mary Jo & Tom Mathis)

Old Rugged Cross (recorded by Greear Frischmuth & Scott Heimer)

Peace in the Valley

How Great Thou Art (performed by Mary Jo & Tom Mathis)

Amazing Grace

Miss

Gilbert Duval

Patrick McNece

Honorary Pall Bearer

Burt Brigida

Ron Carter

Richard Pledger

Scott Heimer

Mike McNece

Dan Kurz

Pall Bearer

Invitation for Friends to Share Memories of Dora & Burch

(a favorite poem of Dora's) Read by Chaplain Dennis

"Little Boy Blue"

Poem

Trish Burch McNece

Eulogy

Sharp HospiceCare

Chaplain

Dennis P. Ottalagano

Service performed by

Followed by Full Military Honors at Graveside

Memorial Service 12pm - 1pm

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free I'm following the path God has laid you see. I took His hand when I heard him call I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day To laugh, to love, to work, to play. Tasks left undone must stay that way I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void Then fill it with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your hearts and peace to thee God wanted me now; He set me free.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. Gone yet not forgotten, Although we are apart, Your spirit lives within me, Forever in my heart.

