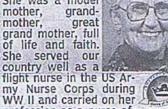
Agnes Kerr (Nan) Colasanti passed away after a long illness on Saturday

night, September 8. She is now with her husband, son grandson. and She was a model grandmother, mother, great grand mother, full of life and faith. She served our



profession as a nurse af-ter the war. Working in the preemie center at St. Joseph Hospital, she assisted in the development of emergency air evacuation programs for premature babies in the 70's. Born a member of the Kerr Clan in Clydebank, Scotland, she was 87 years old and has been an Arizona Resident for 46 years. Nan is sur-vived by her twins Janet Henderson and Jim Colasanti, her daughters-inlaw, Jean Colasanti and Maureen Colasanti, son-in-law Gery Hender-son, seven grand children and six great-grandchildren. The viewing will be at 6 p.m., Sunday, Sep. 16, and the Rosary at 7 p.m., at Queen of Heaven Mortuary, 1562 E. Baseline Rd, Mesa, AZ 85204. The Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m., Monday, Sep. 17 at St. Anne Catholic Church, 400 F. Filiatt, Gilbart, AZ 85234. Soc. 440 E. Elliott, Gilbert, AZ 85234. Services entrusted to Queen of Heaven Mortuary.

Huney Smith PH 42

May Jesus have mercy on the soul of Agnes Kerr Colasanti May 18, 1920 September 8, 2007

I Said a Prayer for You Today

I said a prayer for you today and know God must have heard-I felt the answer in my heart although He spoke no word! I didn't ask for wealth or fame (I knew you wouldn't mind)-I asked Him to send treasures of a far more lasting kind! I asked that He'd be near you at the start of each new day To grant you health and blessings and friends to share your way! I asked for happiness for you in all things great and small-But it was for His loving care I prayed the most of all!

Queen of Heaven Mortuary Mesa, Arizona

Dear Dorothy, I'm writing to you to let you know, my Mom, Man Colas anti has passed away on 9-8-07. She had been sick for a long time, but she was at place when she died. I will give you my address and Phone number if you wanted to keep in touch. Thank you Janet Henderson (Doughter) Phy az 85023 602 863-0012

Some of this is not quite sight Sufficiently she did Internet address: www.prescottaz.com • Sunday, November 2, 1997 • The Daily Courier of World War II flight nurse recalls years of service in Europe, Africa

•VET, from 1A

came home and married that young soldier, had three children with him and 45 years of wedded bliss until his death six years ago.

service, she tended hundreds of injured and sometimes dying men. showered in North Africa, hiked with a backpack through the mud of Italy, ate K-rations in Southern France, scarce ice cream in Sicily, and had an audience with Pope Pius XII. Once she even stared her own mortality closely in the face.

air-evac trip to southern France in summer 1944, but got a short leave instead. And another nurse, Aleta Lutz, took her place.

The plane hit bad weather on its return trip and slammed into the side of a mountain. Aleta was killed 15 patients. Lutz had the tragic honor of being the first woman killed on a military mission.

Nan was devastated. "I thought individual flight time. how it should have been me ... I wanted to come home and said I'd never fly again."

But it wasn't Nan Colasanti's time and it still isn't. She arrived home safely on May 31, 1944.

her living room; smiling a warm, dimpled smile, her naturally dark

hair only mildly salt-and-peppered with gray, and her large blue eyes alive with memories.

"It was exciting and there were times I wondered if I'd get home, but I saw countries I never would've During Nan's three years of war seen" - and had many adventures, she said.

Plus, Nan and her fellow nurses She slept in tents and cold-water made living history in medical transport.

The two squadrons formed at Bowman Field, Ky., in early 1943; the 802nd Medical Transport Squadron assigned to Europe and the 801st, which assigned 25 nurses to the Pacific theater, were the very Nan was scheduled to work an first in hundreds of medical transport missions that are now commonplace wartime.

> Nan's 802nd squadron alone transported wounded from 10 battle campaigns in Europe and evacuated nearly 116,000 patients.

At the end of the war, each of the in the crash along with the crew and two dozen nurses was awarded an Army Air Medal with four clusters a token of honor and appreciation that signified almost 800 hours of

> At the squadron's 50th reunion in 1992 at Brooks Field, Texas, nurses who now serve in medical transport squadrons thanked those first nurses and saluted them as pioneers.

Nan was surprised. "It never At 77, Nan sits comfortably in occurred to me that I was doing anything special," she said. "It was just a job that had to be done."





Nan Colasanti, above, reminisces over photographs and memorabilia of her years as a flight nurse in Europe and North Africa during World War II. LEFT: Colasanti during her time in the service.

Military women memorialized in nation's capital

The Daily Courier

The nation dedicated its first major memorial to the nearly two million women who defended it throughout history this past Oct. 18 at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

About 30,000 women veterans and active duty service women took

tion, which began Oct. 16.

"Women's service is a page in our country's history books which has seldom been revealed, but (was) celebrated and commemorated throughout the dedication activities," said Jennifer Finstein, spokeswoman for Women in Military part in the four-day commemora- Service for American Memorial

Foundation, Inc.

The range of roles and service to the nation exemplified by the women who attended spans nearly a century, from World War I veterans to today's women serving on combat aircraft and ships, she said.

The Prescott VA Medical Center

will host a celebration of women veterans from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Friday in the theater (Building 15), said Carole Wagner, women veterans coordinator at VAMC.

Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, U.S. Air Force, retired, will be the guest speaker. She will talk about the recently dedicated women's memorial in the nation's capital.