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September 19, 1948

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Dear Dorothy,

I am writing to you to let you know that my mother, Presentine (Patty) Morrisey died this year in April, 2007. She died at the Holyoke Soldiers Home where mom chose to live when she began needing full time round-the-clock care. She loved being in that environment where everyone she knew was a World War II veteran. Of course, she had been a World War II army flight nurse so she had many experiences to share.

At the Soldiers Home, mom was one of only 15 women, and 264 men. It was a very upbeat environment with a strong culture of celebrating the memories and history of World War II. Mom died at the age of 90 from complications from pneumonia. Ironically, she had told all of us, her family, that she planned to die at 90 years old sometime in the following year after she had a big party celebrating that landmark birthday. That's what she did.....she died five months later.

At mom's funeral we gathered together all her pictures from her days as a flight nurse and put them on posters. We requested that people not send flowers, and instead send donations to their favorite charity. And on mom's casket there was a huge spray of red, white and blue flowers. At her three hour wake, we had a table which held many of her World War II memorabilia including her pilot log and personal journal. It was a great celebration of her life, just as she had hoped it would be.

I'm writing because mom had received your newsletter regarding an impending reunion so I thought I'd bring you up to date on recent events. I hope your reunion transpired and was a great success.

All the best,

Cindy Bares

Daughter of Patty Morrisey