



Ethel Marilyn Church

April 15, 1940 - February 6, 2021

Ethel Marilyn Church, 80, of Corvallis, Oregon passed away at Willamette Springs Memory Care in Corvallis on Saturday, February 6, 2021.

Ethel Marilyn Church [Pyles]

Born April 15, 1940 in Spokane, Washington;

Graduated from Oakland High School [Oregon] in 1958;

Attended Multnomah School of the Bible in Portland, Oregon;

Graduated from Southern Oregon College of Education [Ashland];

Earned a Master's Degree in English Literature from the University of Oregon, Eugene;

Married to Richard Church for many years, deceased;

Parents were Daurice and Jewell Pyles, deceased;

Survived by a son, Kris Constantine, of Issaquah, WA;

Survived by 4 siblings: John Pyles of Corvallis, OR; Ward Pyles [Sandra] of Nampa, ID;

Daurice Ulicki [John] of Anaheim, CA; Jamie Pyles [Ilene] of Creswell, OR;

Marilyn was a high school English teacher, doing substitute assignments for many years;

Hobbies: riding horses as a young person, including riding in parades in Yoncalla, Sutherlin, and Roseburg; She enjoyed oil painting; She loved to

travel, and visited Israel at least twice;

She was very active in a number of Christian women's groups, often as a speaker;

Her greatest joy was her relationship with her Lord and Savior---and leading others to know Him as well;

She attended Calvary Chapel in Corvallis for many years.

Cemetery Details

Locke Cemetery

Corvallis, OR 97330

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ *It's been many, many years since I lived in Corvallis and called Marilyn friend, yet my time spent with her, comforted by her gentle nature, will always stay with me. She was one of the kindest people I have ever known. She is at home now, safe, and whole.*

*Su Hodgson
Portland, OR*

Su Hodgson - March 29, 2021 at 04:57 AM

DA

“ *3 files added to the album Memories with Marilyn*



Daurice - February 11, 2021 at 03:44 PM

WP

“Marilyn continued) From a human standpoint, life did not always treat our sister Ethel Marilyn well. But she was like Abraham who in Hebrews 11:10 said that he was looking for a city that has foundations and whose designer and builder is God. She has found that city. We used to sing a song long ago, “Come and go with me, to my Father’s house” and if she were here with us today, she would strongly urge each one of us to go with her to the Father’s house. She got so she could not walk any more, but she is laughing, jumping, skipping and running now in the Father’s house. So, do you have a reservation? Talk to one of us and we show you how to get your reservation.
Ward (for the family)

Ward Pyles - February 11, 2021 at 02:26 PM

JD

Thanks for sharing these stories Uncle Ward!

Julie Dever - February 13, 2021 at 09:54 AM

“ Ethel Marilyn (Pyles) Church was born on April 15, 1940 in Spokane, Washington. She joined her brother in her parent’s family. Jewel and Daurice Pyles were her parents. They had met while attending Whitworth College in Spokane where Jewel’s uncle, Ward Sullivan was the college president. The story was that Daurice was aiming to hit a college girlfriend with a snow ball and hit our future dad instead. We kids always teased her about her good aim.

Our dad became a school teacher and so we moved around a lot when we were in school. For example, I, her younger brother, had been in seven different schools in that many locations by the time I was in the eighth grade. Our parents taught us about the Bible, the power of God, and loving Jesus from out earliest ages. Ethel got to experience that first hand. When she was a freshman in high school, we lived in a little tiny town called Harlan between Corvallis and the coast. Our mom was going back to school studying to be a teacher that year so our family was split up, some of us lived with our mother, and some with our dad and we would try to get together on the weekend. At that time, Ethel (Marilyn) was staying with our dad. One morning, I will never forget, I heard a strange wail from her bedroom calling our dad to come. She had a problem, she was paralyzed on the left side. Dad bundled her up and rushed her to the hospital. The verdict, she would never walk again! But Dad got our whole family together and church members and we starting praying to the living God who answers prayer and she walked out of that hospital three weeks later.

We moved to Oakland, Oregon where Dad got a teaching job in that area. Ethel loved horses and begged and cajoled our parents in getting her a horse. She went on to become a princess at the Yoncalla (a small town to the north of Oakland) Rodeo. As a result, she rode in parades in Sutherlin and Roseburg. After graduation from Oakland High School, she attended Multnomah School of the Bible (as it was then called) where she received her true calling, as a prayer warrior. She had a intense conviction that God could intervene in people’s situation.

She went on to marry Dick Church who became a pastor of the Four Square Church in Corvallis. For a while they commuted back and

forth from a farm that they lived in near Jefferson, OR. One time I (Ward) was out visiting them and Dick invited me to go out back of their farm to see if we could shoot some racoons. Usually there were always some out there but that night we saw none. I remember Dick grumbling that it was because Ethel loved racoons and she was praying that we would not see any. Later on she lived by Colorado Lake and racoons would come visit her often. Dick and Ethel had a boy named Kristopher and when the marriage broke up, Dick took Kristopher with him and moved out of state. Ethel felt badly about the situation but she still believed in the power of prayer. At the time I had a traveling job which caused me to leave on Monday mornings and return on Friday nights. She challenged me to pray with her concerning Kristopher, and Dick. I will never forget Saturday mornings, she would be pounding on my door at 6:00 am and yelling at me to wake up, saying we have to pray. I was tired from all my traveling but would reluctantly get up and pray and when I was gone working, she would continue to pray. It was our family's thinking that Dick had done wrong in leaving as he did. But she kept praying for Dick and Kristopher and God answered in marvelous ways. Space is too short to tell them all, but one remarkable thing comes to mind. After praying 15 years for Dick and Kristopher, one day she got a phone call from Dick saying that wanted to come talk to her. He came and apologized to her for his part in the break up of the family, saying that he would gladly pay one million dollars if he could go back in time and do everything over. He asked her forgiveness and of course she forgave him. From a hu

Ward Pyles - February 11, 2021 at 02:22 PM

DA

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories with Marilyn*



Daurice - February 11, 2021 at 11:43 AM

DA

Ward, John, Daurice, Jamie, Marilyn

Daurice - February 11, 2021 at 04:16 PM

DA

“ 4 files added to the album *Memories with Marilyn*



Daurice - February 11, 2021 at 01:21 AM

JP

“ Thanks aunt in law Marilyn. You were a blessing and a beautiful person. Jill pyles



Jill pyles - February 09, 2021 at 08:01 PM