



Mary Ann Dunkin

July 14, 1929 - July 28, 2011

Mary Ann Dunkin passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family, on July 28, 2011, after battling Acute Myelogenous Leukemia. MARY ANN HENDRICKSON DUNKIN, first child of MARION C. HENDRICKSON and GRACE E. GROFF, was born Sunday, 14 July 1929, at the Hendrickson family farm north of Nodaway, Adams County, Iowa. She was baptized on Mothers' Day, 8 May 1932, with her sister, Deloris Jean, at the Nodaway Methodist Episcopal Church. While her future husband, USAF PFC Ben Dunkin, was attending radar school in Florida, Mary Ann was enjoying her senior year at Nodaway High School. She was busy with classes, playing forward on the girls basketball team, was a cheerleader, editor of the school paper, and participated in music and drama. Mary Ann graduated from Nodaway High School on 11 May 1947. After graduation she attended Iowa State Teachers Extension College, earning a Limited Elementary Teaching Certificate. She taught country school in Montgomery and Page Counties, Iowa for two years before she married. She attended Nodaway Consolidated School Nodaway all 12 years and had never attended a country school. It was different in her new job with all eight grades in one room! Teachers were needed after WWII. She was not too thrilled to be teaching though, because in her heart of hearts she wanted to go to the University of Iowa and study journalism. Mary Ann, married on Sunday, 26 June 1949, Nodaway Methodist Church, in a double wedding ceremony with her sister, Deloris, to BENJAMIN LEE DUNKIN, son of FRED B. DUNKIN and ANNA E. LINN. Mary Ann and Ben and Deloris and

Marvin Peterson celebrated their double Golden Wedding Anniversary on 26 June 1999. Ben served 26 years in the US Air Force on active duty. He retired as Chief Master Sergeant on 30 August 1972, to Fort Collins, having been stationed in Texas, Florida, Alaska, South Dakota, Kentucky, Mississippi, Newfoundland, California, Japan, Vietnam and Michigan. Their first home was in Rapid City, South Dakota, where Ben was stationed. Their second home was at Marks AFB, Nome, Alaska, where they celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary. Their first child, Ronda Lee, was born at Ladd AFB, Alaska. Their second child, Denese Ann, was born at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Their third daughter, Lisa Renee' was born in Sacramento, California. Mary Ann found time to serve as a room mother in her daughters' various classrooms from Newfoundland to California and Japan, and was active in PTA, a Girl Scout Mother and leader, and taught Bible School at the Methodist Church in Nome, Alaska, which included children from the Eskimo Methodist Church, and in various Base Chapel programs. She loved spending her spare time sewing dresses, etc. for her three daughters. While stationed in Japan, she and Ben were active members with their Square Dance Club and again in Roseville, California, where they were members with the Lad and Lassie Square Dance Club. She became interested in genealogy in 1979 which turned into a very interesting hobby; she wrote several family history books. Retiring to Fort Collins, Colorado, Ben was employed with the Poudre R-1 School District for 13 years, and Mary Ann was employed in the business office at LCVTC for 10 years. When fully retired, they enjoyed extensively traveling and visiting with friends and family. They also loved going to their grandchildren's many events. Mary Ann and Ben were members of Christ United Methodist Church and the Adult Sunday School class since arriving in Fort Collins in August 1972. Mary Ann served a term as trustee, and was on the admin board and worship committee. Mary Ann is survived by her husband of 62 years, Benjamin Lee Dunkin; three daughters, Ronda Rastler Dan of San Jose, CA, Denese Van Dyne Brian Beasley of Atlanta, GA, Lisa Martin Scott of Ft. Collins, CO; two sisters, Deloris Peterson of Villisca, IA, and Janis Davis Lowell of Ft. Collins,

CO; four grandchildren, Eric Rastler Jennifer De Rose of San Jose, CA, Christina Seals David of Roseville, CA, Melinda Martin of Ft. Collins, CO, Lucas Martin of Ft. Collins, CO; one great-grandchild, Dylan Seals of Roseville, CA; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives; and numerous wonderful friends. We, her family, are grateful to and thankful for the loving care Mary Ann received from the staff at Pathways Hospice at McKee Medical Center; the staff in the Oncology Unit and Infusion Center at Poudre Valley Hospital; and Dr. Miho T. Scott and other staff at the Cancer Center of the Rockies. A funeral service will be held Tuesday, 10 a.m. at Christ United Methodist Church, 301 E. Drake Rd. Interment will follow at Grandview Cemetery. A visitation will be held 5-7 p.m., Monday at Bohlender Funeral Chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to Christ United Methodist Church or Pathways Hospice in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive St., Ft. Collins, CO 80524.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Mary Ann and I spent many a pleasant moment sharing genealogy information on the Dunkin family, in addition to family photos and news. I will miss her.*

Judith Michael Mable - August 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *My Condolences go out to the Dunkin family. I didnt know Mrs Dunkin very well but as a staff member of PVH I was lucky to get to see Mr and Mrs Dunkin many time as they would walk into the hospital. They stopped many times to say hello and share how the weather was. The story of their long loving marriage is one that I hope to live up too. Again I am very sorry for their loss and I will grately miss seeing their faces. With love and prayer, Suzie Polakova*

Suzie Polakova - August 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TZ

“ *Dear Ben and family, You are all in my thoughts and prayers now and in the weeks ahead. Sincerely, Tara*

Tara Zeleny - August 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ *Ben & Family. So sorry to hear about Mary Ann. She was such a warm loving lady. We were happy to meet her and you Ben. We enjoyed our stay with you and wished you could have come up to Canada to see us.*

Ruth Gorda - August 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ With our sincere sympathy to all of Ms. Dunkin's family for your loss. You are in our thoughts and we pray that you find comfort and peace in knowing her life was so well lived and so filled with love.

Bob and Elaine Cutting - August 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Mr.Dunkin and his family.

Julie Heiss - August 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Aunt Mary Ann will be missed. She was an incredible, strong woman. She was whip-smart and passionate. The world has lost an amazing woman. I wish peace to her children, grandchildren, great grandbaby and to Uncle Benny in this time.

Megan Peterson - August 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Our love, thoughts and prayers are with you all. Mary Ann was a delight to be around, a true joyful spirit. I was so happy to see her and Ben back in March. The depth of the loving bond between you all was obvious. You've had the amazing gift of having her so close all these years and I know how much she will be missed. Peace be with you here on Earth, and with Mary Ann in Heaven.

Robin Jacobs & family - August 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ I met Mary Ann and Ben shortly after becoming colleagues and great friends with Lisa. For the 20 some years I've known Mary Ann and Ben, I learned that they are wonderful parents and grandparents. They always welcomed my family to share in their family gatherings too. Mary Ann will be remembered as a kind-hearted lady. She will certainly be missed by so many people lucky enough to share in her precious life.

Mitzi Johnson, Jim, Lea and Grant - August 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Our deepest sympathy goes out to all of for your loss. I have such great memories of both Mary Ann and Ben from college/sorrority days with Lisa. Her smile was contagious and she had such a sweet demeanor. She will be missed by many. God bless you all during this difficult time.

Beth Harris and family - August 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our heartfelt condolenses go out to your entire family. May you find comfort in knowing that someone so special will never be forgotten, and that her love lives on in you all.

Carole, Joseph, Heidi and Abby Somsel - August 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ I am so sorry to hear about Mary Ann. She was a very sweet lady. I know you will find comfort in your many loving memories of her.

Joan Wedell Kaiser - August 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ To the Dunkin Family, our condolences at this time in the loss of dear Mary Ann. Both my wife and I are distant cousins through the Hendrickson line. Her genealogy work and help to families in their research was a great gift. We will miss the family tree updates. Perhaps she will sharpen her Norwegian during her eternal family reunion in Heaven.

DAVE AND JEANETTE HIGGINS - July 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ I am so sorry to learn of Mary Ann's death. She was a constant email buddy and we shared not only the Hendrickson family blood 2nd cousins but also background and opinions on world happenings. It was through her that I met Arne, our Norwegian researcher and delightful friend who made it possible for me to travel independently in Norway. I will be forever grateful to her for that. May she be sharing lefsa and a cup of coffee with those who went before her!! Hilsen Mary Ann.

Susie Enarson - July 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Mary Ann was a special lady and I am so happy that she shared her talent for baking. Lisa always brought her Mom's special chocolate cake to school. We loved her thoughtfulness! I am glad I had a chance to meet her. John and I are thinking of your family.

Janet and John Kask - July 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Dearest Dunkin family. It was with great sadness that I read of your wife and mother Mary Ann's passing. I know there is such sadness in your family at this time. I pray that your family finds comfort in knowing that Mary Ann touched so many and made a difference in the lives of others. I have such fond memories of our time in Japan with your family. Mom and dad counted you as family members for over 40 years! I will keep you and yours in prayer. The hole in your heart will always be there....but remember the good things and good times your wife and mother gave to you as a gift. May God Bless and keep you all. Love to all Linda

Linda Barger Patterson - July 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ We are sad to hear of Marys passing. We shared many emails with our genealogy search. She had so much information to share on the Petesons. Her Norway contacts made it easier. I wish I could have met her. She was a wonderful person. She will be missed.

Dean Peterson - July 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ Such a fun gal.. she could always make us laugh. She surely will be busy now meeting all those names she knew on her genealogy tree.... May our Lord comfort each of her family members and friends in your loss.

Sherene O'Quinn - July 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Dear Denese, Please be assured of my love & prayers of comfort for you & your family at this sad time. Sally.

Sally Murray - July 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Like Dean I never met Mary Ann but we would correspond by e-mail on our Peterson family tree. She was a great lady & will be missed. Our thoughts & prayers are with the family.

Ken Moen - July 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ I wanted to let you know how sorry I am for your loss. We are thinking of your family.

megan hampton - July 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM