

August 12, 2012

Dear Family & Friends,

Life has thrown us a curve ball this year. At the beginning of the year Mom was still working with Dad at their office. The middle of February she caught an upper respiratory infection and started sleeping 20 hours a day. After a week and a half of trying antibiotics she went to the ER and they gave us very sad news, she had pancreatic cancer. We discussed all of the treatment options and were told that with chemo she would have quality of life and live for one to five more years. However that is not what happened. Mom went to sleep in the blessed arms of Jesus on May 29.

For those of you who knew about Mom's illness we want to thank you for all of your support. The cards, flowers, food and prayers were very much appreciated and were a big part of sustaining us and providing Mom with the peace that she needed to deal with her illness. For those of you who we were unable to contact, we are truly sorry; we were so overwhelmed by the events that were taking place that we were not able to reach out to everyone. It was unintentional on our part; however we wanted you to be aware now.

You were a significant part of Mom's life and she loved each of you. Below is her life sketch that was read at her service.

Love The Dalton Family,

Bill Yvonne William Dorothy Mark

Life Sketch

Elizabeth V. Dalton was born September 14, 1935 in Stoneham Massachusetts to Harold James & Dorothy Alice Shultz. At that time she had three brothers Harold, Leland and Warren. Harold and Dorothy were on furlough when "Betty" was born and they all returned to China the next year. They lived in Central China and then they moved to Hong Kong because of the Japanese advancement. They went by boat, train and over land to Choni where they lived for four years and added another brother, Marvin. Because of WWII and Harold's polio they returned to the States in 1941, however they were able to return to the land that they loved in 1946, for three more years.

When Betty returned to the states she knew very little English, her mother-tongue was Mandarin. She used to cry when her Mom & Dad would run errands and leave her and her brothers with relatives because she found it difficult to communicate in English.

The last time they left China they went by military transport to Hawaii and stayed there for several months after that they returned to the mainland for good. The Shultz's lived in several locations before settling in California, where Betty finish up high school and met Bill. The family loved Bill right away; however Betty had to think about it for a while; but when he knelt down in the orange grove to propose she said "yes", according to Betty this was because of the cars coming on the road where they were.

Because of all of the moving around Betty did as a child she wanted to put down roots, and didn't want to live in a foreign country again; however God had something else in mind. After several years in California, and two children, William and Dorothy; Bill & Betty moved to Mexico so Bill could continue studying medicine. While in this beautiful country they increased their family with Mark and Yvonne. There was a year in Canada and then back to Mexico for a year of Social Service and living in paradise. Then Texas and Georgia where the family increased again with the addition of the Hua family. Then they moved to the Marshall Islands while Bill worked on the military base and Betty helped with the local church and student missionaries. Betty finally got her dream of roots when they moved to Florida 1984.

Betty was so happy to have all of her family in the area and to watch it grow with the addition of Patty and Ren. She loved being a grandma to Jenifer, Jesica, Justin, Rene and Nick. She continued her work in the children's division that she had started way back in California. She dearly loved being with young people on Sabbath morning and marveled at how quickly they became adults and brought their children into the family of God.

Betty never shouted her beliefs but lived it by making everyone welcome in her home. From sponsoring whole families, to students of all ages, to the friends of her children and grandchildren everyone was welcome and well fed. Her love for God showed in her love for everyone who came into her home.

Betty is at peace now resting in the assurance that she will see you on the resurrection morning. Please be there so you can help her sing praises to God and truly be a Forever Family.