



CHARLENE LU KUHN

September 30, 1929 - June 5, 2017

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Tribute Wall



“*Charlene Lu Kuhn, born Charlene Lu Allen, was born on Sept 30, 1929 in St Louis, Missouri. She was the oldest child with 3 younger brothers, two of which are here with us now. When our mother was in elementary school her family moved to Manhattan Beach, California where she met her best friend and future husband at Sunday School, Robert Marshall Kuhn. His mother taught Good News Club so after school she would go see my dad and learn more about the Bible.*

Our mom and dad were childhood sweethearts. They would hang out at church and youth group, and were always at the beach with friends, or at our father’s family home where there were avocado orchards to explore.

They both went to Redondo Union High School. Bob joined the Navy in 1948 and served on the USS Cony during the Korean War. Charlene went to Westmont College in Santa Barbara studying Art and Botany.

They were married in 1952 at the Manhattan Beach Orthodox Presbyterian Church where they grew up and attended.

They lived in a small house in Hermosa Beach where they began having their 6 children, later moving to a larger house in Manhattan Beach, where they stayed many years until 1981 when they moved up to Grass Valley.

Our family always went to church. Mom and dad sang in the church choir and both were in Bible Study. Everything we did as a family was around church activities and family.

Raising 6 children was not an easy task. Sometimes money was scarce. Mom was always cooking great dinners and entertaining friends. She would spend hours using TIDE, Amway and pumice stones to scrub the grease out of my dad’s clothes since he was always working with the boys in the garage on some project. She would sew clothes for us, even prom dresses, and taught some of my friends to sew. Dad and mom would sometimes work together making us gifts for birthdays and Christmas. One of her good friends said that our mother had told her, "sparse money is the inspiration of creativity". Our mother was a very creative homemaker and we never wanted for anything.

My mother loved adventure and her and dad would take us children on road trips to old "Ghost Towns" and later even camping for the summers on the North Fork of the Yuba river where they had a gold mining operation. Mom even tried to ride a Montessa Motorcycle once which she promptly drove into the ivy hedge across the street. She found some time for her art and painted a few memorable paintings and give them away to her friends. She had a lovely voice and would sing around the house. She taught me how to sing a very sultry "Summertime". She was very enterprising and always had small cottage businesses going to make a little money for the family. She was a wonderful grandmother always taking time for the children. She used to let the girls play with her china dolls and have tea parties with them teaching them manners and how to handle breakable things.

Charlene learned much from life by watching birds. She loved God's creation and one of her favorite things to do was watch the hummingbirds from her window and collect ferns and wild flowers and press them into books.

Charlene raised 6 children, all who live in California. She has 18 grandchildren. She has 24 great grandchildren.

People use the saying, "beautiful inside and out" but my mom truly was. Gorgeous to look at and kind and generous hearted as well. She leaves a legacy of many grandchildren and great grandchildren but her true legacy which she always prayed would live on, was her total abandonment to the love of her savior Jesus Christ who she trusted in good times and difficult times. In her last years she would pray often for her children and grandchildren that they would truly know Jesus as their savior. We will all miss her sweet smile and how she would grab your hand and hold it for just a bit too long till you looked into her eyes and she would say "I love you. You are just perfect".

Robin Longacre - July 15, 2017 at 10:39 AM