



Betty C. Fidler Garber Gifford

April 22, 1924 - January 27, 2017

Betty C. Fidler Garber Gifford, 92, went home to be with her Lord and Savior whom she loved, on Friday evening, January 27, 2017. She died at home, following acute pneumonia, secondary to Alzheimer's, in the loving care of family, in Rolla, MO. Born to Spurgeon and Alma Fidler on April 22, 1924, in Detroit, Michigan, Betty was the only girl with five brothers: Martin, Robert, Donald, Richard (living), and Kenneth.

Betty graduated from Columbia High School, Columbia, PA, in 1942, and married her sweetheart, James F. Garber, Sr, on Christmas Day, 1943. The following day, James reported back to duty in the Army Air Force at the Bolling Field Air Force Base in Washington, D. C.

Following the war, they made Lancaster County, PA their home, and reared their three children: Jim, Cindy and Tom. In their late twenties, both Betty and Jim had a life changing encounter with Jesus Christ, and thereafter, their heart was to share Christ with others. Thus, they founded The Hi-Way Chapel, (1952-1962); a chapel on wheels to teach God's Word, in trailer parks, fair grounds and schools. After further training and internship Jim pastored two churches, and Mother served as Pastor's wife, children's choir director, and led the women's ministries in both churches.

Following the sudden death of her husband in 1981, Betty served as a

missionary with Bible's for the World. In 1989, she met widower and retired pastor, Merle Gifford, and married in 1990. They moved to Rolla, MO in 2004 to be near family; Merle died in 2007.

Betty was a wonderful Mother and meticulous home-maker. She won first prize for her homemade bread and second best for a crocheted afghan. Betty was a hospitable, warm, and caring person who extended herself to others. She was an avid journal keeper and letter writer. In 2006 she wrote "The Hi-Way Chapel Story," and a couple of years later, she wrote her autobiography, "Fragrance of Memories."

Survived by, brother, Richard Fidler and wife, Joyce in Boise, ID; sister-in-law, Delorus Fidler of Lancaster, PA; daughter Cynthia C Smith and husband Dan Smith of Rolla, MO; Thomas E. Garber and wife Linda of Williamsport, PA; step-daughter Dr. Darlene Gifford Bressler and husband, Dr. Charles Bressler of Marion, ID; also seven grandchildren: Jay Garber, Kerry Garber, Timothy Smith, Benjamin Smith, Warren Smith, Elizabeth Smith-Lin, and Kim Garber-Cawthern; one step-granddaughter, Heidi Bressler-Hilkert; 15 great grand children; 1 great-great grandchild, and 2 step-great-grandchildren.

In MO, relatives and friends are invited to attend Betty's visitation at the Rolla Church of the Nazarene, 1901 E. Tenth St., Rolla, MO 65401, 5-7 on Tues, Jan 31, followed by the 7 pm service and refreshments. Directed by James & Gahr Mortuary.

In PA, relatives and friends are invited to attend Betty's Memorial Service, at Calvary Church, 1051 Landis Valley Rd. Lancaster, PA 17601, on Sat, Feb 4, 2017 at 11AM with lunch following. The private family internment will be at the Ironville Cemetery, Columbia, PA. Directed by Furman Funeral Home of Leola, PA .

In lieu of flowers, a tax deductible contribution in her memory may be sent to: I-TEC, 23 Green Hollow Road, Montoursville, PA 17754 (Son's ministry, www.i-tec.org), or Camp David of the Ozarks, P.O. Box 1607, Rolla, MO 65402 (Grandson's ministry, www.CampDavidOzarks.org), or Bibles for the World, P.O. Box 49759, Colorado Springs, CO 80949, (Betty's ministry, www.biblesfortheworld.org)

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **31**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Rolla Church of the Nazarene
1901 E. Tenth Street
Rolla, MO 65401

Tribute Wall



“ *Betty C. Fidler Garber Gifford*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Betty C. Fidler Garber Gifford*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM