



Lillian McFerren Black

July 2, 1921 - May 28, 2013

Lillian Elizabeth McFerren Black, 91, of McLean, Virginia, passed away Tuesday, May 28, 2013. Lillian was born July 2, 1921 to Russel and Maude McFerren in Quincy township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. She is survived by her four children, Shawnee Marsh, Olivia Kulbeth, Monica Richards, Leo Black, and by fourteen grandchildren and twenty-one great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Albert Leo Black and her sister Emilie McFerren Packer. A service will be held June 8th at 2:00pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1325 Scotts Run Road, McLean, VA 22102. The family will receive family and friends before the service from 1:00 to 2:00pm. Interment will take place on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at Sandy City Cemetery in Sandy, Utah. Lillian was raised in Fairview Village, Quincy Township, Pennsylvania. She loved learning and attending school. She graduated from Quincy High School and later attended Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. After high school Lillian lived in Washington, D.C., and worked for the federal government as an executive secretary to General Coffey. Lillian married Albert Leo Black September 9, 1949, in the Salt Lake Temple in Salt Lake City, Utah. They lived in Modesto, California, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. When her husband Leo passed away in 1958, Lillian returned to the Washington, D.C. area, living in Arlington, Virginia, to work and raise her four young children. Lillian retired from the Federal Government in 1986. At the time of her retirement she was working for the Department of the Navy as an administrative assistant in the Congressional Liaison Office. There

she received the Navy Civilian Meritorious Award. Lillian was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and while living in Virginia, attended the Falls Church Ward, Vienna Ward and McLean 2nd Ward. She faithfully served in many capacities including the Young Women and Relief Society organizations, as a missionary in the California San Bernadino Mission, and as a temple worker in the Washington, D.C. Temple. Lillian was valiant in her testimony of Jesus Christ and the restored gospel. It was always important for her to do the right thing. Lillian never questioned why she had the trials in life that she had; she just continued to move forward with faith and endure well all that was required of her and endured with a sense of humor. Lillian enjoyed genealogy and family history research; she felt a great responsibility to do her part in linking her family together. Lillian loved, respected and appreciated her parents, Russel and Maude McFerren, and her sister, Emilie. Throughout her life she expressed gratitude for all they did for her and all they taught her. Lillian has been a wonderful mother, grandmother and great grandmother. As her extended family grew, it was important for her to acknowledge each child, grandchild and great grandchild at birthdays and holidays. Everyone anticipated their special card and personal note. She was always interested in what each person was involved in and made an effort to attend and be a part of the special events in their lives and always give encouragement. Her family brought her great joy and she brought great joy to her family. Lillian has been a shining example of service, kindness, friendship, faith, strength and love. She has been the anchor of her family.

Tribute Wall

PL

“ Dear Family,
Ken and I saw Lillian's beautiful picture in the Washington Post obituaries this morning, and wanted you to know that she will be well remembered by us. We first met her in 1973 when we arrived in the Falls Church Ward, and her example as a mother, Relief Society sister, and friend continued throughout the time we were in the Vienna Ward together.

As her Bishop, Ken called her one evening and asked her to house two missionaries who had been evicted from their apartment. I remember that he agonized before he called her, but she was quick to put him at ease and said that she would do it -- for a month!

Ken was also Lillian's Bishop when she received her mission call to San Bernardino. She called him at home after getting her letter and said, "Bishop. This is Sister Black of the San Bernardino mission." It took him a few minutes to catch on to the fact she was sharing her exciting news. A few years later, our son Jonathan was called to serve in the very same mission, so we feel that we share that bond with her.

Lillian was a grand lady, and we share your sorrow as you mourn her passing. But we rejoice in the knowledge that we will see her again one day.

Our love to you,
Patty and Ken Lee

Patty Lee - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM

JT

“ *Lillian was my visiting teacher for quite a while and I loved having her come to my home and share the gospel. She was a good friend and a great example to me.*

Later I became her visiting teacher and loved going to her home. Several times I brought a favorite plant or two to share with her. She cautioned me that the plants may not live long as she didn't think she had much of a green thumb. Later we laughed together because the plants lived for several years very well.

Lillian shared many wonderful stories and experiences with me about her children, grand-children and great-grandchildren. She was so thankful that many of them lived close by and that she was a great part of their lives. She was a good friend and will always be a shining example for me of how to live.

Jackie Thomas - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM

MM

“ *We were very saddened to hear about Lillian's passing. We knew she was a special lady but never realized just how special until we read her obituary. It's obvious that she will be truly missed by the whole family and we wanted to express our condolences.*

Mike and Kim McFerren - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM

EM

“ *Lillian was a dear friend to us for years and years, beginning in the Falls Church Ward in the early 1970's. We always kept in touch at Christmas and loved her yearly notes to us. She will be missed!!*

Ernie and Bonnie Myers - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM

SH

“ *Sister Black was always very kind to me, I have appreciated that for as long as I have known her.*

susan hendershot - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM

LL

“ *Lillian was a wonderful friend. I used to ask her how she kept such a positive attitude as she aged. She said simply, "it's easy, but, I hadn't really thought about aging".*

Lillian, Mary Ann G., and I went to Brookside Gardens in Maryland one year to see the Butterfly "Wings of Fancy" exhibit. After a few minutes when we were inside, a butterfly landed on top of Lillian's head. She must have used some kind of hairspray or perfume that morning. Whatever it was, the butterfly loved it and did not want to leave its landing spot. Lillian's face lit up as she was absolutely delighted when she realized the butterfly just didn't want to get off. After much effort, we got it to leave as we didn't want to take it out of the greenhouse with us. Lillian always smiled when we later spoke about the butterfly's free ride that day.

Lillian will be missed.

Linda Lund - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM

DH

“ Aunt Lillian is one of the noblest women I know. We lived across the street from her in Arlington, VA for about 7 years. When we moved to Oakton, VA, our boys Conrad, Clinton, and David were about 11, 10 and 9. Collette was an infant.

Aunt Lillian's home was a focal point of wonderful family get-togethers filled with lots and lots of laughter and love. I remember wonderful Christmases at her house with her, her children, Ellis and Emilie Packer, Papap and Grandma. Wonderful, happy times.

I remember how Aunt Lillian was a rare combination of a quick wit and kindness. She was always loving – so much so that she made me feel right at home with her. She also provided excellent guidance on raising boys, as her son Leo was just a few years older than our oldest son. I remember her sage advice – “No matter what, just love them.”

Doug Harrell - August 30, 2013 at 01:46 PM