



Northwest FOCUS

God at Work Through Northwest Independent Church Extension

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A Legacy of Love

One of the word pictures used in Scripture describes our body as a tent. In II Peter 1:14, the Apostle states, *"I know that the laying aside of this earthly tent of mine is imminent ..."*

This past year, a number of our NICE Family have laid aside their earthly tent, and stepped into Glory with their robes of Christ's righteousness. Most recently, our colleague in ministry, Shirley Brubaker, "laid aside her earthly tent" to be with her Lord and Savior. During the time of declining health, her key verse was Psalm 31:14,15a, *"But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in Your hands."*

Les Lofquist and his wife, Miriam, recall the time when he assumed the role of Executive Director of IFCA, *"Shirley's enthusiastic support for Miriam and me was affirming and encouraging at a time of uncertainty as we faced a new season of ministry. Her love and friendship was an important part of our lives for many decades and we honor her memory as our beloved sister and wonderful servant of Jesus Christ."*



During the 57 years of ministry, with her husband Earl, Shirley



was used to touch so many lives for God's glory. Katherine Rodgers noted, *"If there was a gathering, Shirley was in the middle of it making people laugh and*

enjoy themselves." Several ladies remarked on her ever constant smile. Kathy Mosser shared, *"I always remember Shirley as having a smile on her face, a cheerful spirit, a younger-at-heart personality and choosing to live on the positive side of life."* Her *"warm, infectious smile"* was fondly remembered by NICE missionaries Judy Hallson and Linda Ott.

Earl and Shirley were appointed as Minister at Large with NICE in 2010. In this role they served several churches in an interim capacity, using their mentoring and discipling gifts. Shirley made people feel loved and accepted, including children. Katherine Rodgers commented, *"She had a knack for making sure kids were not forgotten or left out."* Her love for kids began with her own family! Many friends are still trying to picture Shirley enthusiastically engaged in Indian Leg Wrestling with her grandchildren - a fact that was revealed at the Memorial Service! Donna Snook said of Shirley, *"Her love for Jesus, Earl, their family, and each church family they served was so very evident."*



Shirley's involvement within the NICE Family naturally spread to involvement in the



Pacific Northwest Regional of IFCA International. Then, when her husband, Earl was elected President of IFCA, Shirley took her gift of encouragement to the IFCA Home Office.

We all wish to leave a legacy. Shirley's was one of a word of encouragement, a ready smile, and much love! Elvia Sprague remembered that *"what began as an acquaintance, became a friendship that spanned 50+ years!"* In fact, the last time she was with Shirley at the hospital, *"She hugged me, and said, 'Love ya, love ya, love ya.' That memory is firmly locked in my heart."*

So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. I Corinthians 3:7