



Mary Elizabeth Hall

February 2, 1924 - June 30, 2009

Mary "Betty" Hall 85 of Wenatchee, Washington, died June 30, 2009 in an Adult family home.

Mary had lived in the Wenatchee Valley for the past eighteen years and in Wenatchee for the past four years. Mary attended the Free Methodist Church of Wenatchee, enjoyed traveling, volunteer work, and cooking meals for her family.

She is survived by two daughters: Susan Avila of Pasadena, CA, & Rosemary Kurpuis of East Wenatchee; sister, Ruth Jordan of Eastland, Texas, & thirteen Grandchildren & Seventeen Great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held July 18, 2009 @ 2:00 pm in the former Eastmont Baptist Church 330 N. Lyle, East Wenatchee. Memorials may be made to Central Washington Hospice.

Tribute Wall

SA

“ Betty Hall was one of a kind.

My favorite memories of her involve singing - either to us or with us. There didn't seem to be a word or phrase that didn't remind her of a song. She sang around the house, in the car, in the bathtub, by the campfire, everywhere she went. She instilled in me a great love for singing.

Her friendliness was legendary. The saying, "She never met a stranger," described her perfectly. She welcomed everyone into our home no matter who they were. Her interest in other people knew no bounds. She instilled in me a great curiosity for learning the stories of others (some have uncharitably called it "gossip," but I think of it as good-natured curiosity).

Her interests were wide-ranging. I remember how fascinated she was when the San Jose newspaper printed a series of recollections from a young Irish woman of her previous life. The series turned out to be a hoax but, since Mom claimed to remember some of her own past lives, she rejected popular opinion.

She read voraciously. Different religions were a favorite topic and she loved to discuss what she had read with anyone who would listen. (Fortunately my husband Everett was always ready to listen and talk about esoteric subjects.)

She never completely lost her Texas accent, she had an infectious laugh and her love was unconditional - there'll never be another Betty Hall.

I will miss you Mom.

Susan Hall Avila - July 17, 2009 at 02:44 AM

“ This was received from Evelyn Detherage Hughes, Betty's college roommate and life-long friend.

"Betty Norman from Fort Worth, Texas was 16 years old when she entered Freed-Hardeman College in Henderson, Tennessee. Evelyn Detherage was 18 years old, from Lexington, Kentucky. We decided during our first year at FHC that when we returned for our second year we would room together. That began an unusually happy relationship that lasted all of our lives. Betty "fell in love" and married "Sonny" (Hubert) Hall. I married Louis Hughes. Sonny Hall was a childhood friend. Our parents had met and married their respective spouses in Washington, D.C. where Sonny and I were born. The friendship between the Halls and the Detherages was also lifelong. Betty loved her in-laws uncritically and unconditionally. Both our husbands served in the military during World War II, Sonny in Europe and Louis in the Pacific. Betty came by train with 5 month old Susan in the summer of 1944 to visit us and Mary Louise and James Finney. Louis and I kept Susan while Mary Louise, James, and Betty took a day trip to N.Y. It was hot (no air-conditioning) and Susan cried a lot. I am sure our inexperienced "care" was disturbing, but when Betty returned she (Susan) was contentedly fast asleep. I remember our trips to Texas to visit family and planning trips to correspond with Betty and Hugh's trips to Illinois also to visit family. We met once in a park in some small town. That was our first time to meet Rosemary--an outgoing pretty blonde toddler. I thought of Rosemary as having Betty's naturally sunny disposition and Susan reminded me of Cornelia a lot (her grandmother). We did not meet David and Bill until they were teenagers. It was a demanding life and Betty struggled to meet the challenges. She was, in my mind, the stabilizing force for her family. Hubert escaped often into his books and his own world while she coped. He realized years later how he had depended on her, and was ever grateful for her. Betty was and always will be, of course, a special person in my life. She was so giving and in all ways, she gave her best efforts. I know she often felt she fell short of what she wanted to be. She was very human, very very dear, and a wonderful

friend. I consider myself exceptionally blessed in my relationship to her. Betty's early life had a great many stresses, strains, and insecurities, and we talked about those during our college years together. Becoming a part of Hubert Sr. and Cornelia's family was for her a great gift. She treasured the relationship with her in-laws and loved being their daughter-in-law. When Betty was diagnosed with Alzheimer's I watched her face that with unbelievable equanimity. Hubert was a great support to her. An unexpected inheritance gave her a lot of security. My own sister and a brother-in-law also had Alzheimer's. It is the cruelest way to die. But somehow the essential nature of a person seems to come through and Betty's sweetness and loving nature, for me, was there intact."

Rosemary Kurpuis - July 14, 2009 at 11:46 AM

AA

“ *I have been feeling sad about my Grandma Hall passing. I hadn't seen her or visited with her for many years, only hearing about how she's doing from my mom who visited her. It was hard for me to see her with the Alzheimer's; I felt that she was already gone. I remember one of the last times that I connected with her: it was at my brother James' wedding. She came into the bathroom and looked at me, paused, and said, "Oh, yes, I know who you are, my dearest first grandchild." And I said, "I love you, Grandma." She hugged me. Grandma, hope you're with Grandpa and happy. Love, Ancelyn*

Ancelyn Avila - July 07, 2009 at 07:55 AM