

Barbara Folsom Mecham

December 10, 1928 ~ January 3, 2025

My deepest feelings of condolence and comfort for the family and loved ones. Thoughts of Barbara and her.creativity and cheer and sweetness are among my dearest memories of the time we were members of the Potomac Ward. I loved our excursions to Pennsylvania (outlets and antique stores). She could set a charming dinner party table with her antique store finds (plates, water goblets and flatware) not matching but pleasantly harmonious. Once she told us "If Ralph questions my antique and outlet trips I tell him they are cheaper than a psychiatrist." She was, and is, so good so sweet so funny.

- Karen (Reiche) Clements

My deepest condolences to Barbara's family. May her love and legacy continue to inspire and guide all of us. RIP dear friend, you'll be always with us. Love, Vesna

- Vesna Mirjacic

I wish I could attend the funeral in person and add my presence as one of Barbara's biggest fans. I have learned so much from her through our treasured friendship. I told her many times that my biggest goal in life was to be like Barbara - with her optimistic enthusiasm, love of people and generous service. I will forever be grateful for our last "in person" visit in November - in Utah - where she once again was totally interested in my life and remembered details about my children. I thought I was there to "cheer her up." What an incredible woman with a legacy of a true disciple of Jesus Christ!

- Margaret Archibald

Barbara Mecham was one of the loveliest women I have known. She always had that wonderful smile and always happy to see you and greet you. She will be missed.

- Barbara Candland

When I became a member of Times Club, Barbara was one of the first of many wonderful women to make we feel welcome. She always seemed happy to see me and she always made me feel accepted and loved. She already has been missed but her happy and welcoming personality will live on. I express my sincere condolences and love to her family. You were blessed to have her in your lives for so many years. Her wonderful legacy will live on.

- Ellie PococK

My first memory of Barbara was stopping at the unfinished Potomac Ward House and seeing Barbara and Ellie Colton busy staining the benches in the Potomac Chapel. I soon came to know Barbara was always willing to help, was loads of fun, was a wonderful cook and hostess, friend to everyone, loved antiquing in PA, and that she and Ralph were a tremendous team with a terrific family. I can still hear her invitations to dinner saying, "I can't guarantee things, as I'm trying out a new recipe." Of course, her meals were always delicious! Barbara never stopped learning. I was amazed how she stayed up-to-date with various computer programs. Barbara was resilient, an example to us all, a loving mother and wife, faithful to the teaching of Christ, and endured will to the end.. Bravo, Barbara! We will all miss you. .

- Suzanne Cooper

Barbara named herself as my fairy god-mother; she was absolutely correct. She helped me through all the tough & challenging times when I was sick and when my mother was passing in Auckland, New Zealand. She called or text me everyday and if I did not response she would call as late as 10pm. I learnt not to complaint but have faith and have a positive attitude. All the sweet memories of taking her to concerts and dinners will last forever. The last luncheon was at her house without knowing Angela and Steve were here and we were planning to bring her home-make dumpling and noodle for lunch. I did promise to visit her in Utah - never imagine that was the last time I will see her here but I am comforting to know she is with Ralph and super happy. Love you Barbara.

- Doris & Wai H. Poon

Hi Ms Allison, am very very sorry for your lost.lt has saddened my heart that l couldn't call to talk to her before she passed. The whole family should accept our deepest sympathy. Your family became part of my family the day l started working with you. I always remembered her in my daily prayers and was hoping to visit as we planned which hasn't happened. May the Almighty God console you all and may her Gentle Soul Soul Rest In Perfect Peace. Amen.

- Elizabeth Adofoli

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so sorry, my dear cousin we had such good times together she lasted as long as I did, but I’m still here so sorry she isn’t my condolences to you

- Annette Bennion Clark

The Colton’s and Mecham’s were great friends for years. We first met them when we visited Sterling and Ellie Colton for Thanksgiving, and Mecham’s were also there - that was before we even moved to Maryland. Ralph was our bishop and Barbara was our daughter Nancy’s Primary teacher before we moved from there to Austria. We remember fondly their visit to us there. Phil was their Home Teacher for a number of years, and would make a visit whenever Barbara needed a helping hand. After moving away again, we would manage a visit to them each time we returned to Maryland. We were delighted when Barbara moved close to us, and we were able to visit with her

here. We also brought our handbell choir to her care facility to put on a Christmas program, never expecting that it would be the last time we would see her in this life. There are many of us who will miss her here, and look forward to a reunion in the hereafter. Rest in peace, Barbara.

- Bobby Snyder Colton

Dear Mecham, What an incredible disciple of Jesus Christ. There were many scores of members of the Chevy Chase Ward who were very sad when the Mecham's moved into the Potomac Ward, our family was one of them. However, Barbara & Ralph continued to bless our family - our extended family through their love and kindness and service to my aunt and uncle, Aleen & Howard Slaton. Aleen is my father's sister and when Uncle Howard retired from a career in the Air Force they moved to Potomac. Although growing up in Beaver, Utah, Aleen was raised in the Church, she became less active when she left home after high school. She met Howard when he was stationed in Utah just prior to WWII, and they married. Later in their life Aleen became interested in attending the Potomac Ward, thanks to Barbara and several other wonderful members. For the last decade or so of their lives Aleen & Howard became regulars at the Potomac Ward. Barbara played an essential role in the Slaton's lives and we are so grateful to her and Ralph. What a magnificent life and legacy. Our family will be forever grateful for the Mecham's.

- Hal Christensen

Dear Mecham Family, I am deeply saddened by the passing of Miss Barbara, but I also feel incredibly blessed to have known her. She was a true light in this world—her warmth, wisdom, and kindness touched my heart in ways I will always carry with me. During my time working with her after her rehab stay, she was not just a client, but a teacher and a friend. She shared with me stories of her life, her faith, and her perspective on the world, each lesson leaving an imprint on my heart. Miss Barbara raised remarkable children who continue to reflect the love and kindness she instilled in them. Her legacy lives on in the compassion you show to others, the strength you carry, and the love that binds your family together. I will always be grateful for the time I spent with her, for the joy she brought into my life, and for the lessons she so graciously shared. May she rest in eternal peace, embraced by the love of heaven. My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this time. With deepest sympathy and gratitude, Fatime Gombo

- Fatime Gombo