



Liisi Reed

July 24, 1918 - August 11, 2015

Marjetta Reed, 97 years old, born Liisi Marjetta Iivonen in Karppila village, Karelian Finland on July 24, 1918, passed away peacefully on 11 August of natural causes at home in East Brunswick, NJ in the presence of her youngest daughter, Lisa Reed. When she was one year old, Marjetta survived the Spanish Flu, which took the lives of her two brothers in Finland. Marjetta's parents, Fii and Antti Iivonen, sent their daughter to visit her Uncle Emil in Quincy, MA when she was 20 years old. Marjetta travelled by boat from Helsinki to England, and then crossed the Atlantic on the Queen Mary. World War II broke out and her uncle said she shouldn't cross the ocean when it was so dangerous so she stayed in the US. The Soviet Union forcibly annexed Karelian Finland after two Winter Wars, and Marjetta's parents resettled in western Finland during World War Two. Only a sewing bag Marjetta made in the first grade survived from her home in Karppila. Marjetta met her husband, Edwin Reed of Automba, MN at a Finnish community dance in Massachusetts, and they were married on August 31, 1941. She became an American citizen in February, 1944. Edwin was a pilot in the US Army Air Corps and subsequently worked for Norton Company. They lived in Worcester, MA, Park Forest, IL, and Whittier and La Habra, CA. They had three children, Allan, Karen, and Lisa. During this time, Marjetta was active as a precinct voting judge and with the Lutheran Women's League. She enjoyed bowling and played cards with her friends for many years. After Edwin passed in 1975, Marjetta became a Nurse's Assistant and she enjoyed working for

several years at Brea Hospital. In 2007, Marjetta moved to East Brunswick, NJ to live with her daughter, Lisa. She is survived by her three children, her daughter-in-law Ayo and son-in-law Reggie, seven grandchildren (Atem, Oba, Marjetta, Matthew, William, Nicole, and Fija), six great grandchildren (William, Nicole, Kaija, Kai, Makena, and Micah) and her cousin Bertha Bjork in Florida and family in Finland. Marjetta is remembered fondly as a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and a very sociable person with a wonderful sense of humor. Marjetta will be buried next to her husband at Memory Garden, Brea, CA after a memorial service with family and friends there at noon on 20 August, 2015.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

AUG **20**. 12:00 PM (PT)

Memory Garden Memorial Park & Mortuary

455 W. Central Ave.

Brea, CA 92821

(714) 529-3961

info@memorygarden.com

<https://www.memorygarden.com/>

Tribute Wall

“ 30 plus years ago I was introduced to my soon to be mother-in-law Etta Reed and have spent those decades getting to know and love her for her warmth, wisdom and style. She was always welcoming extending home as refuge and retreat to her ever- moving extended family. During one visit to her LaHabra household where neighbors, card buddies and family were frequently found she declared with a look in my direction that she was a Republican. While I don't recall the particular context in which the comment was made I was aware that Reed family dinners were sometimes forums for political discussions frequently stoked by husband Edwin whom I did not get to meet. Karen later insisted that her mother was never a Republican. In that context it felt very much like an invite into one dimension of the Karen Reed family culture. Etta, Mummu, Mom were all names that I used at various times and she was always perfectly comfortable with whatever name I chose to use. She met and impressed my big sister and family matriarch Lovie (7 years her junior) in Senegal and they shared babysitting duties for Matt, Nicole and William. I became the conduit for greetings between the two in the decades that followed. This same family welcoming warmth was extended to daughters Raina and Whitney. Family time with her was card games, good food, drinks and great deserts. She got updates, news and shared a wealth of insights and experience. A master story teller Etta's life provided insights that informed, entertained and provoked reflection. As a child she had a run in with an aunt involving a deck of playing cards, biting in the struggle over the cards, and the intervention of her mother who admonished both to behave. My interpretation of one aspect of this story was that her mother providing support for a more progressive attitude with regard to playing cards by focusing her intervention on the aggressive behaviors of each. In my upbringing children were never accorded this sort of equal status in a confrontation with an adult, especially if it involved the child biting or hitting the adult. There were few situations in which the authority of adulthood could be challenged regardless of the issue at hand. The richness of her life and her manner was strengthening and the warmth with which she shared her life, home and family was a privilege and a gift that

accompanies me in mourning her passing. Reggie

Reginald Hawkins - October 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ *Mummu, What a blessing to be named after you, a woman as gentle as you were strong and devoted. I never remember you angry, raising your voice- although I saw you at times stern. You are the woman I want to be to my family and in this world. I will always remember sneaking into your room, putting your rings on my fingers, dusting myself in your scented powder and spraying L'Air du Temps on my neck...I may just buy a small bottle to remember you by. I love you always.*

Maija Juul - September 01, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ *In loving memory of a wonderful grandmother. We will miss and love you always. Whenever I eat enchiladas I always remember you and how everyone was involved in making it. Whenever I see rutabaga, I'll always remember how its almost always on the dinner table whenever we visited. I remember when you lived in California and when my we came to visit we were always stuck with a chore. I always preferred dusting because I got to look and touch all the little trinkets you had collected and displayed in home. I see you as a woman proud of your heritage, but also have a love for other cultures. Thank you for everything*

Nicole Hawkins - August 31, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Mom, you have been a wonderful and amazing mother to me, mother-in-law to Ayo, Mummo to Atem and Catherine, to Oba, to Maija and Dane, and to Fija, and great-grandmother to Kaija, Kai, and Makena. You taught us that the most important thing is to love one another as you have loved us. You traveled the world to be with your family in Africa, and Asia, and even to Russia. You instilled in me a love for our homeland in Suomi and a pride and respect for our Finnish roots. You raised us as family, and now we know that you are united again with Dad, and that gives us comfort. We all love you, Mom. Allan

Allan Reed - August 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NE

“ My deepest condolences for the loss of your beloved mother. What a wonderful, strong, loving woman she was...no doubt quite a big influence in your life

Nikki Economou - August 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Evan as adults, we always called your mom, "Mrs. Reed." Maybe her first name was too hard to pronounce, but I think it was really about her quiet dignity. I really liked your mom, Karen. She had a wonderful gift of hospitality. And I knew she liked me and all your high school friends. I searched and searched, but found no photo of your mom. But I found plenty of photos of you and all our friends partying in your mom's back yard. I will always remember your mom, fondly.

Mary Munford - August 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Mom loved it when family visited. Here is the Hawkinses with us last January (back l to r: me, Mom, Karen, Reggie, Nicole; front l to r: William, Matt, Ashley, Nicole, William, Micah, Chelsea). Family meant so much joy to you, Mom and we loved being with you.

Lisa Reed - August 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ Mummu, there are so many memories I have of you. I remember your love of Mexican food and chocolate. That during one of my visits you insisted that I had ice cream and refused my leave until I finally gave in. You sat with me countless times, telling me stories of your past, family, and of your husband's service. Your stories had passion and patience. Thank you for the memories.

Ashley Talbot Hawkins - August 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Our Mom and Our Mummu

Karen Hawkins Reed - August 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ Mom, I love you so very much. It was truly an honor to have you live with me and to take care of you. You and Dad took care of all three of use with kindness and grace that we all would do anything for you. Thank you so much.Love Lisa

Lisa Reed - August 13, 2015 at 12:00 AM