



Mrs. Ardis Jane Bystrom

SEP 24, 1919 - JAN 16, 2019



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Mrs. Ardis Jane Bystrom

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Ardis Jane Brown Bystrom was born in North Star, Michigan on September 24, 1919 to Bessie Fraser Brown and Alfred Walter Brown. She had one brother, Joy and two sisters, Nita and Rhea. She became a Christian at an early age and felt called to become a missionary as a young adult. She attended Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois, graduating in 1942. While at Moody she also met her husband, Kenneth Neil Bystrom, whom she married in December of that same year.

Ken and Ardis joined Team Mission as missionaries and served in Colombia from 1943 through 1946 and then in Venezuela. In 1952 Ken joined the American Bible Society to head up their office in Caracas. Ardis worked at the Canadian Embassy and raised their two young children. In 1963 Ken was asked to assume additional responsibility which involved significant travel and the family moved to Mexico City. While there Ardis worked for an elite executive recruitment firm and attended the University of the Americas, studying history and psychology, while her children attended school in the United States.

Ardis' welcoming nature, her love of cooking and her natural affinity for entertainment endeared her to many around the world, especially pie lovers. She was humble, incredibly wise and a devoted biblical historian, reading her Bible through every year and teaching her children, Sunday School class and Women's Group to absorb Scripture. Her character was kind, generous, encouraging and gutsy in the face of adversity. She believed you could do whatever you set your mind to and that we all need abundant hugs. But most importantly she continually strove to emulate her friend and Lord, Jesus Christ. It has been easy for her family to understand the Lord's concepts and love through her example.

She will be dearly missed by her daughter, Nancy, her daughter-in-law, Wanda Rowley, and two grandchildren, Tracey Gardner and Tom Bystrom, and their children. She will also be missed by many around the world. But we can all be comforted in the knowledge of Ardis' new heavenly home and reunion with her much loved husband, Ken, their son and other loved ones there. No doubt she is coordinating the entertainment of many of the saints and discussing biblical history



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with Jesus. We so look forward to seeing her again one day and enjoying a heavenly meal at her table.



Events

Mrs. Ardis Jane Bystrom

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Visitation

Monday, January 21, 2019

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

Memorial Park Funeral Home and Crematory
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709

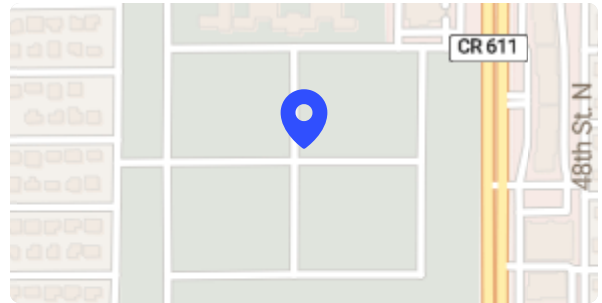


Funeral Service

Monday, January 21, 2019

2:00 PM ET

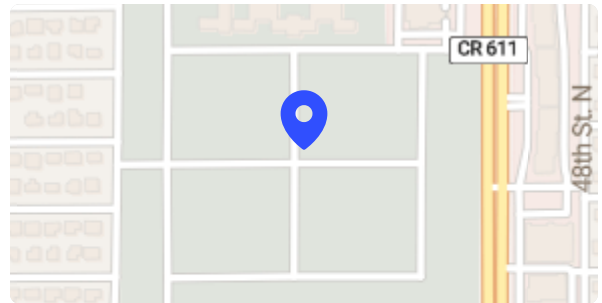
Memorial Park Funeral Home and Crematory
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709



Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery
5750 49th Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33709

(727) 369-8228





Tribute Wall

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VS

Val Silk posted:

To be around Ardis was always pure joy. Her burdens and weariness never dulled her sharp wit, and her stories about her adventures as a missionary with her beloved Ken were always fascinating and hilarious. She was a lady of such steadfast faith, sweet, gracious, and giving. I'm so grateful for the example of her life, lived out fully and faithfully for the love of her Lord and Savior. I want to be just like Ardis. And, Nancy, what a blessing you were to your Mom and Dad! Thank you for the example you so wonderfully showed others of how to care faithfully for parents, even for many, many years and through the most difficult circumstances. The Lord brought you through it all, as you knew He would. May He continue to hold you up and provide for all your needs throughout all of your remaining years. I have such respect and admiration for you! God bless you, sweet sister.

March 18 at 1:56 PM

LH

Les And Mary Anne Harris posted:

We will all miss Ardis. She was such a devoted follower of the Lord, encourager of His people, and one who radiated the love of Christ. How thankful we are for the time we had with them in St. Petersburg. They always blessed us more than we them when we would go and visit them. Wonderful to think of her seeing Her Savior face to face, and of course Ken and her son as well. May the Lord comfort all who grieve her loss by this assurance. Les and Mary Anne Harris

January 21 at 4:58 AM

CB

Carol J. Balduf posted:

I met Ken and Ardis Bystrom several years ago when I visited the shut-ins from Northside Baptist Church. What a blessing they have been to me and when Ken went to be with the Lord I visited Ardis and daughter, Nancy become my sweet sister in Christ. Ardis's memory was sharp right up until the end and she shared stories, played the piano, sang and her love for the Lord was apparent in all she said or did. My dog, Greta loved Ardis and when she was bed bound she would lay next to Ardis and she would pet her, but said "don't let her lick my face" She will be missed by all, but she was ready to be with the Lord and be reunited with her dear Ken. You will be missed by so many, especially me.

January 21 at 4:55 AM



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CS

Christine Schreier posted:

I knew Ms. Bystrom by being her caregiver and I will always remember her best sitting on her chair beside me in the sun and talking about her life and the smile that came to her face when her "chirpy bird" came to the vines next to us. She would get quiet so as to hear him chirp and sing as if it was a special show being put on just for her. As her days were getting harder when she would wake up she sometimes would ask "am I in Heaven yet?" and I would always say I hope not Ms. Bystrom because I am right here with you! She still managed that special smile each and every time I would say that. She also loved to hear the daily escapades of our puppy--Buddy. Often when I would arrive she would ask about Buddy and I would tell her what silly thing or naughty thing he did on his morning walk that day. I loved Ms. Bystrom like family and she will be missed. She will be happy in Heaven as she often told me, and she wanted to see her dear husband again. Have a safe trip Ms. Bystrom as this will be the biggest trip of your adventurous life. Chris

January 20 at 1:52 AM

MS

Marcia Sowers posted:

Nancy, So sorry to hear the news about Mom. I'm sure tho that she and Dad are having a wonderful chat about now. So honored to have had all of you as neighbors. Regards Marcia Sowers

January 19 at 1:47 PM

CN

Carole Nordstrom posted:

We met Ken and Ardis through my sister Jan and immediately found a missionary mentor. We work hard to follow her example. Our prayers for peace and joy go up to our Father for you all at this time of joyful grief. Carole Nordstrom Make A Difference Ministries

January 19 at 11:28 AM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Bystrom family.



January 19 at 2:21 AM



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Johann Murray posted:

One of the most endearing moments I ever observed was when Ardis, needing wheelchair assistance, visited my mother in the hospital, held her hand, prayed with her and put a big smile on her face. If anyone ever deserved the express elevator to Heaven, it was Ardis Bystrom, my dear friend. Johann

January 18 at 3:52 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Bystrom family.



January 18 at 9:38 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ardis by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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