

Marie Kolasinski

Born: July 26, 1921

Passed: April 23, 2012

Celebration of Marie's Life

April 27, 2012

We are here today to celebrate an extra-ordinary life — the life of Marie Kolasinski. She would say that God just picks ordinary people and has them do extra-ordinary things.

Well, we all know Marie did just a few extraordinary things in her lifetime. It was impossible for Marie to have a status quo life ... she had convictions placed inside of her by a righteous and holy God. She put Him first, above all things, and followed Him wherever He took her. She feared God, her Creator, more than man, and there was proof of this many times over throughout her lifetime as she stood against the powers that be, especially the ones who were stupid enough to walk through those doors back there!!!!

[pointing to Piecemakers' front door]

She led a selfless life and those of us who walked closely with her for over forty years — and most of us hardly half her age — couldn't begin to keep up with her. Here's what Marie's average day included: up long before the crack of dawn and anyone else, about 2:30 to 3:00, starts her cooking (at one time she did all of the cooking for all of us); she would put in a day's work at the store, be home in time to get dinner on for her family. After dinner she'd retire to her room where, believe it or not, she would answer sometimes as many as thirty letters from the prisoners before calling it a night. She slowed down a little bit though, right after her 90th birthday.

She prayed that America once again would become the republic for which it stands, to become one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. To be that example to the world God intended us to be,

Marie was a visionary, a pioneer, who bravely forged a path for many others to walk upon. She fought for the lowly and the downtrodden, the mom and pop businesses, the prisoners, the halt and the maimed. She said, "These are the ones God truly loves."

Just some small signs that confirmed the fact that she was special to Him: She loved the rain. On the day she died, it rained. Was rain in the forecast? I think not. A meteor fell from the sky that day. A coincidence? I think not. And then an earthquake — just by chance? You decide.

When asked who owns Piecemakers, she would say, "God does. It's His vineyard and I'm taking care of it for Him." She made sure that Piecemakers was built upon a solid foundation, upon the Rock, which is Jesus Christ. She established within all of us a common sense work ethic, taught us frugality and told us never forget to love and cherish one another.

She was an inspiration to all who knew her. She practiced what she preached. Her writings, poems and songs, including her eight Words of Life books, have been sent around the world. She was a living testimony of that which she wrote.

She will live in our hearts and thoughts forever. If you loved Marie, you loved God.

Marie, you were too good for this world. You will be forever in our hearts and thoughts. We love you, Marie.

(written and read by Doug at Marie's memorial gathering)

The Schedule Word and Letter

A Tribute to Marie

Dear Friends,

As most of you know, Marie passed away April 23, 2012. This schedule will be a tribute to her and her most remarkable life.

Words cannot fully express how much she is missed and will be forever missed by all of us who had the privilege to have known her and yet, it is a time of rejoicing in heaven because she is now home, dwelling with the one and only true God, the One to whom she gave her life so many years ago and the One who she honored and obeyed everyday since. She loved all those God sent her way, treating them as He would. She gave each one, from the most to the least, her undivided attention for as long as they wanted, making that person feel more special and more important than anyone else. If she'd had her way in all this she would have taken all of us with her.

She knew that the store belonged to God and to the customers it served and she listened to both. She once wrote, "Everytime God does something new, it wipes out the old and few there are who catch the wind of the new happening." Piecemakers' success was due to her changing with the times. We will continue in that which she established, putting our trust in a benevolent God, her God, the Creator of each one of us and the universe.

Marie loved each one of you dearly. We wish to extend to you our deepest gratitude for your many years of faithful support. May God richly bless you as you have blessed us.

With much appreciation,

Doug and all the Piecemakers

Mourning

"Blessed are those that mourn, For they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look upon Me whom they have pierced; they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. In that day there will be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Haddad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo." Zechariah 12:10–11

As we read the book of Zechariah, we see the condition of our day. The coming of the Messiah is at hand, even at the door, and when He comes, all will mourn — even the land will mourn and each person will have her or his own personal mourning.

Now let us examine the word mourn. Why does Christ consider those blessed who mourn? Notice that first comes the spirit of grace and supplication, then the looking at our own evil toward the Lord and His people, and then comes the mourning. The world has its mourning that leads only to death, but the mourning that is caused by the coming of the Lord leads to eternal life. The word mourn means to be sorrowful, bitter, to repent, to have remorse and to agonize.

Nobody will come into God's Kingdom without mourning (Matthew 24:30), for mourning is the process whereby we give up our life to gain His. We

mourn for anything or anyone taken from us. All joy will be turned to mourning at the coming of the Lord and after mourning has cleansed us from all vain extensions of ourself, our mourning will be turned to joy and dancing as we will be dead to all of our old life. All sorrow and mourning will flee away as our spirit is set free from all bondage.

So my dear folks, do not believe the false teachers and prophets that mislead you into thinking you can have joy without first having sorrow, comfort without first mourning, sweetness without bitterness and Life without first dying. (Spiritual death — the death that glorifies God.)

Yes, God has a way of bringing us back to Him. The path is one of sorrow and mourning, but the rewards are rich, eternal and an answer to all the longing of our hearts.

Marie Kolasinski

of now or never is an ominous realitu prodding on the weary to persevere when all seems hopeless, to pick oneself up when the journey seems too long; to diligently cling to the vision when the soul is sick from unfulfilled expectations, always remembering that faith will bring the fulfillment of the vision God has given us if we do not give up. Marie Kolasinski

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

July 26, 1921 — April 23, 2012

Precious Memories

