



## Clara "Betty" Wallace

October 28, 1922 - July 22, 2017

Betty Behoteguy Wallace and Charles Henderson Wallace

Betty Behoteguy Wallace (née Clara Elizabeth Behoteguy) passed away on July 22, 2017 in Corvallis. She was born on October 28, 1922 in Phoenix, Arizona, the 2nd child of Mildred and Henri Behoteguy (preceded by her brother, Tom). She lived in Phoenix until her junior year of college, when she transferred to Oregon State College in Corvallis, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Secretarial Sciences. When her sorority, Pi Beta Phi, held a dance for soldiers training on their campus, she met her future husband, Charles, continued below\*.

Charles Henderson Wallace passed away in Corvallis on February 6, 2012 at the age of 91. He was joined by his wife of 66 years, Betty Behoteguy Wallace, of Corvallis, on July 22, 2017, age 94. They are survived by their daughter and son, Marilyn Wallace, also of Corvallis, and Don Wallace, of McKinleyville, California, as well as a few cousins, and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Charles was born on July 26, 1920 in Wichita, Kansas, the 4th son of Muriel and Charles Wallace, (preceded by brothers, Louis, Cletus and Clinton) and grew up in Kansas and Oklahoma. He went to college at the University of Oklahoma, earning a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering; after graduation in 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army.

While receiving Army training in Corvallis, OR, he met his future wife, Betty Behoteguy.

\*Betty and Charles corresponded while he was in Europe, and after the war ended, they were married in Oklahoma City in 1945.

Life together: In December, 1947, twins Marilyn and Don were born. The family lived in Oklahoma City until moving to Wichita, Kansas in 1952. Charles worked in the oil exploration field in the Midwest until 1965, when they moved to California. He and Betty bought and ran a motel in San Luis Obispo for about 5 years before moving to the South

San Francisco Bay Area, where Charles worked for Hewlett-Packard repairing medical instruments until retirement in 1982.

Betty was kept busy as a home-maker, then in the early 60's, she returned to college and earned her teaching credential; later, in the late 60's/early 70's and beyond, she worked as an executive secretary for a private company, which she enjoyed.

These things describe the work-history and timeline of their lives, but not the essences of them. Betty and Charlie (one of the names he went by) shared a love of music and reading, and a love of nature, including cats. They had an active social life with friends, playing bridge regularly and going on vacations with a couple other families. They went to the Methodist and sometimes Presbyterian churches, where they established long friendships and were involved in activities through the church, one of which they enjoyed in later life being an RV group, where they would take short trips around central California together.

They liked to travel and in addition to trips to most of the Western states' National and State Parks, they took a cruise to Alaska and a trip with friends to Hawaii.

Although both Charlie and Betty had good senses of humor, and would often make funny comments about whatever was going on or being discussed, Charlie also liked telling amusing stories, whether true or fictional. They enjoyed humorous entertainment and laughed often with their friends and family.

Early friendships were kept long-term, including Betty's neighbor-friends she grew up with and Charlie's high school Washboard Band members (with whom they attended reunions in later life), as well as long-time close friends made while starting careers and families after the war.

Both Betty and Chuck (his preferred name in later life) were very creative, with many hobbies and interests, and they both enjoyed do-it-yourself projects. Betty was an accomplished seamstress and a good knitter, making many sweaters, and enjoyed playing the piano for pleasure. Chuck liked photography and lapidary work, making gemstone jewelry from rough stones; but his longest creative interest was painting, first in oils, then in watercolors. His gifts from this hobby are several beautiful paintings.

Chuck's and Betty's lives were wonderful examples of how to enjoy life to the fullest, and how to fill one's life with positive endeavors and appreciations. They were kind and loving spouses to each other and generous and devoted parents to Don and Marilyn. They are,

of course, missed, but their legacies are ever-lasting and inspiring.

# Comments

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“ I had the honor of knowing Betty for about 50 years. I considered her one of my second moms, especially during my growing up years from a young child through college when she lived close by. She was a close family friend who was ever kind and loving. I loved the camping trips our family took with she and Charles along with the Switzers when I was a girl.

Betty was a wonderful lady. I will miss her very much.

Tonya Oravetz nee Tubbs

I have shared two photos of Betty

**Tonya Oravetz** - August 11, 2017 at 07:06 PM

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“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



**Tonya Oravetz** - August 11, 2017 at 06:51 PM

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“ Betty and I met in January 1947 when we became next door neighbors and learned that our husbands worked for the same company. At the time, I was struggling with the care of my first baby and Betty helped me out more than I can say. By July of the next year, Betty had produced twins and I had another baby. By that time, the Wallaces and the Cares had become very close friends. We stayed close and eventually wound up in Wichita with a partnership that John and Charlie founded. There were many parties, dances, picnics, and other functions, with or without the kids. Also Betty and I had mutual girlfriends and had our own fun times with them, including regular bridge parties and luncheons.

In the early 60's, the guys sold their company and the Wallaces moved to California and the Cares went to Washington state. We still stayed in close touch however, and managed visits whenever we could. Betty has been my closest friend for 70 years and I will miss her terribly. I will always treasure memories of her and am thankful for the privilege of knowing such a wonderful person. Carolee Care

**Carolee Care** - August 07, 2017 at 04:05 PM

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“ I remember many many fun times with Charles and Betty, attending the same church, a trip to Hawaii with the Switzers, pinocle games, eating great food and generally having a very close friendship. When our girls were very young Betty always was especially kind to them and let them play with her toy cast iron stove and pots and pans. A wonderful and sweet lady. She gave me her Feather Weight Singer sewing machine and table when she moved. We will miss you. Pat and John Tubbs

**Patricia A Tubbs** - August 01, 2017 at 04:38 PM