



Grace Forgrave

July 10, 1923 - October 28, 2021

Grace Forgrave, 98, was born July 10, 1923, in Rudyard, Mich., to Robert and Edith Ann (Sprague) Forgrave, the youngest of 11 children.

Grace graduated from Rudyard High School in 1941 and attended Michigan State University the next year. She wanted to help with the war effort, so she worked for a year as a Rosie the Riveter in Detroit on the leading edge of the Sikorsky fighter planes. She went back to Michigan State in 1944 and graduated in 1947. Grace became a Christian in 1938 and the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship group at MSU encouraged her spiritually. She taught 3rd and 4th grade at Rudyard from 1947-1949. She became interested in mission work and worked at the Navajo Gospel Mission in Flagstaff, Ariz., from 1949-53. She decided she needed more missionary training and attended Prairie Bible Institute in Three Hills, Alberta, Canada, for three years. While there she made connections to work in Peru with the Regions Beyond Missionary Union. To earn money to go to the mission field, she taught 4th grade at Cedarville 1956-57 and went to Peru in 1957 to work with the Quechua Indians after attending a summer institute of linguistics at the University of North Dakota. She worked as a missionary in San Martin, Peru, for 32 years, coming home occasionally on furlough. She wrote entertaining letters home from the mission field and her friend Faye Hansen published periodic prayer letters, which were eventually published in a book, "Grace

Notes," compiled by Jan Reed in 2014. She retired from mission work and returned to Rudyard. She lived in her home with help from many volunteers until her passing on Oct. 28, 2021, at the age of 98.

Grace was preceded in death by four sisters: Janet Way, Stella LaPonsie, Ruth Teak and Ruby Mockeridge and by six brothers: Russel, Ralph, Steward, Harold, Douglas and Tom Forgrave.

A funeral service will be held at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at Rudyard Bible Church with Pastor Nate Beery and Pastor Rod Case co-officiating. Friends may call at the church from 1:00 PM until the time of the service. Burial will be at North Rudyard Cemetery.

Donations in her memory can be made to any of the local churches who supported her through the years: Rudyard Bible Church, Stalwart Presbyterian Church, Donaldson Presbyterian Church or the First Union Church in Cedarville.

For Facebook live viewing of Grace's funeral service:

(5) Grace Forgrave Funeral | Facebook

Tribute Wall

JR

“ Grace was a faithful servant of the Lord. A very special lady to everyone she met. Gracious, kind, loving, sacrificial, and an outstanding witness for the Lord. We have such wonderful memories of our visits together, in Peru as well as in her home in Rudyard. She is now safely Home in the presence of her beloved Lord and Saviour! She will be greatly missed!

Jim and Pat Riddell - November 01, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ My grandmother used to be her age but my mother Chepita was always sure bringing Grace home and telling us all the extraordinary journey of the missionaries. Grace was my friend too and used to call me ñañita that means sister in native language. I lived in WI before I moved back to Peru; her phone calls, cards and wise words were keeping me forward in my faith. My daughter Ella Villagarcia of 21 was also 4th generation to know and appreciate Grace Forgrave testimony in live.
Thank You ñañita Grace!

Reategui Panduro Liz Fabiola - October 31, 2021 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ I've known grave my whole life. She was an amazing woman, so helpful and nice to everyone that got the pleasure to meet her. She will be greatly missed by many!

Cindi Homminga - October 31, 2021 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Grace was such a special lady and our family loved to include her as part of our own family, since she and Mom had been best friends since childhood. Grace influenced so many and spread God's message of love and forgiveness and salvation.

Tom and Christy Martz - October 30, 2021 at 12:00 AM