



## Lorraine McWilliams

August 11, 1933 - November 27, 2015

Lorraine Constance McWilliams, born August 11, 1933 at home on Marshfield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, daughter of Chester A. Gienko and Ann (Majewski) Gienko, "went ahead" peacefully in her daughter Elizabeth's home in Camdenton, MO, Friday, November 27, 2015.

Lorraine grew up in "the city" and attended several Catholic schools: St. Stanislaus, Annunciation, and Holy Family Academy where she developed a deep love for Jesus Christ and a long abiding respect for the nuns who provided education and discipline. In 1949 her family moved to the suburbs where she enrolled at Northbrook High School. On her first day, as the teacher read roll and called out "Lorraine Majewski Gienko", Arthur C. "AC" McWilliams interrupted and asked for her name to be repeated. After class he introduced himself and they soon began their lasting courtship. Their relationship grew as they both excelled in academic's and sports; she as a cheerleader, he as an All-American Basketball player, and together as Class Representatives. It was through sports that AC became involved with Fellowship of Christian Athletes and soon made a commitment of Faith.

Following high school they attended Columbia Bible College in South Carolina to prepare to become missionaries and were married on August 20, 1955 in Paletine, Ill. After AC graduated from the Bible College, they moved, along with their 2 young sons, Stephen and David, into a communal home on Missionary Ridge in Asheville, NC to continue their training for the mission

field.

God had different plans for them; instead of spreading the gospel abroad they became faculty members at Ben Lippen School in Asheville, NC where a third child, daughter Elizabeth, was born. Together AC and Lorraine raised their 3 children in a Christian home, tended a garden, and helped nurture the lives of missionary children who attended the boarding school.

For the 13 years that they lived on "The Mountain of Trust," Lorraine was involved with many extra-curricular activities such as helping to coach the Cheerleaders and planning social activities and retreats. But her artistic talents were best expressed in her role as the Junior Class counselor overseeing the annual Junior Senior Prom which were extravagant productions that took months of preparation.

In 1972 the family moved to Dallas, TX where they were soon blessed with another daughter, Rachel. Lorraine was a stay at home mother until Rachel was in high school. In her 50's Lorraine went out into the work force for the first time as the Assistant to the President of ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) where she continued until retirement.

For AC and Lorraine retirement meant moving out of the hustle and bustle of Dallas to the leisure of Sunrise Beach, MO where they especially loved time spent holding hands while rocking in their swing for two on their back porch enjoying the view of their little neck of the woods. They were happily married for 59 years, together for 65, and they both felt blessed for the time they had together.

Throughout her life Lorraine cultivated a love of art, music, and nature in all her children by always staying busy with pottery, needle-point, gardening,

making beautiful quilts with fabric that told the story of the family's life, sewing outfits for school plays and even suits for AC and the boys, and keeping everyone involved in various craft projects. She will be remembered always through the many Christmas ornaments and hand-cut snowflakes that they made together over their many years together and that the children continue to put on display with pride. The crowning jewel of Lorraine's craft projects were the extremely detailed and elaborate scrap books that she created for each family member going back several generations. These are heirlooms that will be passed down through the ages to tell the history of the family she loved and who loved her.

Lorraine is survived by her son, Stephen McWilliams; her daughters Elizabeth Spraggins of Camdenton, MO and Rachel Warner and husband David of Dallas, TX; four grandchildren: Laura Spraggins, Natalie Spraggins, Kendall Spraggins, and Logan Rayburn. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband and a son, David McWilliams.

Per Lorraine's request there are no memorial services planned.

# Tribute Wall

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“ *My love and prayers of comfort to your family.*  
*Becky Branham Dimon*

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**Becky Dimon** - December 03, 2015 at 11:09 PM