



Barbara "Buzzy" Grace Perry

May 15, 1922 - December 31, 2020

Barbara "Buzzy" Grace Perry (Wackerman)

Born May 15, 1922. Died Dec. 31, 2020, at age 98. Felix A. Perry, her husband of 77 years, preceded her by two days. Survived by children, Philip (Darla) of Athens Ohio, Joanne (David) Cosgrove of Bloomington, Richard of Bloomington and daughter-in-law Linda Perry of Roseville; grandsons, Andrew (Margaret) Cosgrove, Anthony (Astrid) Perry, Benjamin (Elissa) Cosgrove, Nicholas Perry; great-grandsons, Ansel, Bjorn, & Benjamin Cosgrove, and Aiden Felix Perry; great-granddaughter, Elouise Cosgrove; many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. Preceded in death by sons, Stephen and Michael. Graduated from Minneapolis Marshall High School 1940. Graduated University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts, 1943. Married Felix Perry September 11, 1943. Employed as Secretary, League of Women Voters- Minneapolis for 15 years. Loving wife & homemaker, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt and friend. Enjoyed wilderness canoe camping, downhill & cross-country skiing in the Swiss Alps and on many mountains in the U.S., golf, tennis, walking, swimming and ball room dancing with Felix. Avid volunteer, world traveler, and book reader. Loved family and friends and being with them. Suggested memorials to Mayflower UCC Church, League of Women Voters of Minneapolis, Kenny Parent Foundation, The Arc Minnesota (formerly Mpls. Association for Retarded Children); Wood Lake Nature Center. A celebration of life is planned for summer. Share a memory at Washburn-

McReavy.com/obituaries.

I have sad news. Dad passed away on December 29, 2020, at age 101 and Mom passed away on December 31, 2020,- at age 98.

It is hard to lose both parents so close together. We take comfort in the fact that both Mom and Dad would have been very lonely without their spouse and loving partner of 77 years. They were very happy together all those years.

They will be buried in Hillside Cemetery in Minneapolis.

Mom and Dad's health had seriously deteriorated the past few weeks. Mom never recovered from her stroke in October. Recently when Dad went to the hospital for a bladder infection he tested positive for COVID-19 which was one burden too much. They had been very healthy and active until a couple of years ago. In Jan. 2019 they moved into Village Shores senior apartments which they liked and where they could access more assistance when needed. The staff was very caring and very helpful.

To share a memory please go to the Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels website at washburn-mcreavy.com/obituaries. There will be no funeral at this time because of the coronavirus. We hope to have a celebration of Mom and Dad's lives in the summer. We are planning to also have it online for people who cannot attend in person. We would appreciate comments and pictures to include in the celebration. Their obituaries will be published in the Minneapolis Star & Tribune. In lieu of flowers please consider donating to one of the organizations that Mom and Dad selected.

We have many fond memories of Mom and Dad. The most recent was the last time they were together. On December 16th after Mom's returned to Village Shores and before Dad went into the hospital Joanne brought Dad into Mom's room. Dad read to Mom the Christmas cards they had received. They had a very enjoyable time reminiscing about their relatives and friends who sent them. Mom and Dad would send out around 100 Christmas cards every year. Dad made the card with family pictures. Mom would address and mail them. Family was very important to Mom and Dad. They wanted a big family so they

had five of us: Philip, Michael, Joanne, Stephen, and Richard. We all participated on many activities and trips together. Activities included swimming at Lake Harriet, skiing at Buck Hill and in northern Wisconsin, camping, and canoeing in the Boundary Waters in northern Minnesota. Mom also planned many activities around the house and neighborhood to keep us active kids occupied. Nearby Kenny Park was well used.

Mom and Dad loved the house they lived in for 70 years. They had many parties at the house for family, friends, and neighbors. To keep his four grandsons and other relatives informed about family affairs and current events Dad would write and email his grandpa-gram most every week up to his last month of life. Mom and Dad loved to dance and often received compliments for their skill. They also loved to travel and took many trips within the United States and to foreign countries. This included Europe, Africa, Asia, Alaska, and Hawaii.

The story of Dad's life can be found in his detailed autobiography which he wrote and revised over many years. When we moved into the house on Irving Avenue there were then five of us. So immediately Dad started finishing off the upstairs to provide more bedrooms. Over the years Dad had many house and yard projects which he mostly did himself with help from friends and neighbors and sometimes from us kids.

Mom did the cooking and cleaning. But she also paid the bills and kept the calendar of activities. For years she had a League of Women's Voter's heavy duty paper calendar with lots of space to write down appointments, activities, and birthdays. And she filled up every available space. Mom made sure that none of us missed an important appointment. Mom had several sayings that she passed on to us: "If you can't say something nice about someone don't say anything at all" and "It could be worse". About the worst thing she would say about someone was that a person was "difficult". Mom liked most of all having the entire family together for activities, events, birthdays, and holidays. We will miss Mom and Dad very much.

Philip philperry@twc.com

Joanne joannecosgrove@msn.com

Richard richardp45@msn.com

List of organizations that Felix and Barbara Perry suggested for donations in their honor.

Felix and Barbara

The Arc Minnesota – formerly the Minneapolis Association of Retarded Children (ARC). It supports people with intellectual and development disabilities. They were very active in the organization.

2446 University Ave. West, Suite 110, St. Paul, MN 55114

Website: arcminnesota.org

Mayflower United Church of Christ (UCC)

106 E. Diamond Lake Rd., Minneapolis, MN 55419

Website: mayflowermpls.org

Wood Lake Nature Center

6710 Lake Shore Dr., Richfield, MN 55423

Website: richfieldmn.gov/around_town_/wood_lake_nature_center

The Kenny Parent Foundation (KPF) – Kenny School - Kenny is the elementary school their children attend and where they volunteered in the Kindergarten class.

Kenny Parent Foundation c/o Kenny Community School, 5720 Emerson Ave., South, Minneapolis, MN 55419

Website: Kenny.mpls.k12.mn.us

Barbara

League of Women Voters of Minneapolis- Barbara was a member, volunteered, and then was an employee.

PO Box 7570, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Website: lwvmpls.org

Felix

Boy Scout Troop 187 –Sponsored by Mayflower Church. Phil & Mike were

active Scouts and Felix volunteered on the troop committee.

c/o Mayflower UCC, 106 E. Diamond Lake Rd., Minneapolis, MN 55419

Website: troop187.org

OR 187 Alumni Association, PO Box 19112, Minneapolis, MN 55419

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Aunt Buzzy was hands down the gentlest, sweetest, kindest lady on the face of the planet. She ALWAYS remembered dates and events that were important to others. She was so thoughtful, so positive, so encouraging. And Felix. You always knew where he stood on issues. Whether or not you agreed with each and every one of his opinions, you just had to appreciate his capacity for investigating, analysis, and insight.

What an enduring, loving couple they were--77 years married, then 2 days apart, now together again forever. You can't make stories like this up!

Jim McWethy

Jim McWethy - January 04, 2021 at 05:59 PM

SW

“ I never met Felix & Buzz....but I frequently heard about them from my Dad (Daryl Wall). He was inspired by how they stayed active all these years. Every time he would talk about them, he would emphases how incredible they were. I'm sorry for your loss.

Shannon Wall - January 03, 2021 at 05:42 PM

PP

“ Mom was a wonderful mother.

Philip Perry - January 03, 2021 at 05:06 PM