



Eileen Marie Sather

November 21, 1927 - September 13, 2024

Eileen Marie Sather went to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday September 13, 2024. She was born on November 21, 1927, in St. Paul, MN. As a baby Eileen contracted tuberculosis. She spent the first 13 years of her life in Gillette State Hospital for Crippled Children. After graduating from High School, Eileen started to attend Simpson Memorial Church. It was during that time she became a believer in Jesus Christ. Eileen attended Bethel College and the University of Minnesota to obtain her teaching degree, which enabled her to carry out her life's work. She was a Christian and Missionary Alliance missionary in Africa for 37 years and retired in 1990. While in Africa Eileen taught hundreds of missionary children. She still hears from some of her former students. Eileen enjoyed gardening, entertaining, cooking African food, working on puzzles and was known as the Scrabble queen at Lyngblomsten. Eileen lived her life to honor and glorify God. She was loved by many and will be deeply missed.

Survived by nephews Mark and Scott Sather.

Proceeded in death by parents Marie and Carlyle Sather, stepmother Hilda Sather, sister

Jeanette Sather, brother William Sather, sister-in-law Audrey Sather and nephew Craig Sather.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Washburn McReavy Holcomb Henry Boom Purcell at 515 Hwy 96 W., Shoreview, MN 55126 on Thursday, October

3rd. Visitation will begin at 10:00 am and the service at 11:00 am. Reception following the service. Interment Oakland Cemetery.

Memorials preferred to The Christian & Missionary Alliance, Great Commission Fund or donor's choice.

Previous Events

Public Viewing

OCT 3. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Funeral Service

OCT 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Reception

OCT 3. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Shoreview Chapel
515 Highway 96 West
Shoreview, MN 55126

Graveside Service

OCT 3. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Oakland Cemetery (St. Paul)
927 Jackson Street
Saint Paul, MN 55117

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Funeral Service for Eileen Marie Sather in memory of Eileen Marie Sather



Washburn-McReavy - September 17, 2024 at 12:56 PM

BR

I remember writing about my Dad's cousin Eileen when I was in 8th grade. Yes, back in the days when we used typewriters and ribbon... praying no mistakes were made lest I need to use the white correction tape! No whiteout until a bit later! Anyway, I interviewed Eileen when she came over for a visit and dinner. She was so interesting as her life experiences so different than mine. She rode her bicycle over to our house and talked about walking everywhere in Africa (which is probably why she remained so ambulatory as she ages). :-) She was very dedicated to teaching and even in recent years we would chat about her experiences in Africa. She had many great memories of families and students alike. She would always come to the Rausch family reunions if she was in town and worked hard to piece together which kids went with whose family. I dedicated my heart to the Lord when I was a senior in college and we had lots of great conversations when I would come back in town. Also had some fun visits as she settled in Lyngblomsten. She was a master at Scrabble! And everyone knew her there. She definitely loved getting out so we would go drive around Como Lake or go to the Como Park Conservatory where she loved to see the beautiful flowers. She prayed faithfully for family members to find Jesus and dedicate themselves to Him as Lord. She loved her church, her family and her Lord. She had been working for years on an autobiography which my cousin Marie Palecek has pieced together and created a wonderful summary as best she could remember from talking to Eileen and reading the diary and seeing pictures and news articles she had saved. I was excited to hear of her homecoming where she has now seen Jesus face to face. She dedicated her life and will surely hear Jesus words "Well done, thy good and faithful servant!" I am looking forward to more discussions with Eileen when we meet again! She will be missed this side of heaven. —Barbara Rausch

Barbara Rausch - October 01, 2024 at 05:11 AM

SB

I have fond memories of Shortie. My pastor as a teen was John Barkman. He and his wife, introduced me to Eileen. During that time she was a follower of Jesus. She had a heart for Jesus and for people around her. She traveled by bike in the Twin Cities. I served as a missionary with the Alliance in Colombia, South America and I would see Eileen at General Council. I always remembered Eileen and followed her through her missionary career and into retirement. She walked the walk and was a bright testimony to those who were unbelievers and her fellow followers knew she was an authentic believer in Jesus. Thank you, Eileen for living for the Lord and serving Him faithfully. I am now retired and I follow hard after Jesus. Thank you for your godly example throughout your faith journey. You were a tremendous blessing to me.- Sharon Benham

Sharon Benham - December 26, 2024 at 06:36 AM

DS

“Eileen and my mom Ruth Stave (Dague) were roommates when my mom was in college. She would spend holidays with my mom's family back then, and remained close to all of them over the years. She was so faithful in writing and calling my parents until their deaths. Even when my mom had dementia she would call and pray with her, and then call to let me know how it went. She remained close with my Uncle Everett in Hibbing, and I know they would visit her when they were in the Twin Cities. I'm sad to find out she is gone, she's been a constant in my life since I was born. It's been months since she passed, and I only found out because we're getting ready to send out Christmas cards and I wanted to verify her address. We're happy to know that she'll be with her Lord and Savior this Christmas, and our love and prayers are with her family this holiday season.

David Stave - December 05, 2024 at 06:01 PM

HR

“ I first met Eileen when I started going to The Central Mission in 2007. It was small then, with a few younger people, and a group of "Old Faithfuls". Eileen was quick to welcome new people and have them over for a meal. I went to her home many times for a meal, sometimes African stew with peanuts and a dash from her spice container she always kept close. Over the years I learned more about her story, her incredible life up to that point, and developed a deep friendship with her. She had me and my husband over to her home when we were dating. Eileen was one of the few we allowed at the hospital after our daughter, Chérie, was born and passed away shortly after birth. She is the first one to hold her on Earth and now in Heaven. Eileen's prayers, whispered in my ear while she hugged me that year were some of the sweetest gifts. More recently, she was able to meet both of my daughters. Our 5 year old asked last week, "remember that hot stuff she kept in her wheelchair? Where is that stuff now?"

Eileen always had a strong sense of purpose, humor, and how God was working. She didn't shy away from a tough question and wouldn't let others either. She flourished as a woman and a person of faith when there were many circumstances to stand in her way. She is who I want to be when I grow up!

We love you and miss you Shorty/Great Grandma-friend Eileen,

Hannah, Jon, Adelaide, and Iyla Renner

Hannah Renner - October 03, 2024 at 01:52 AM

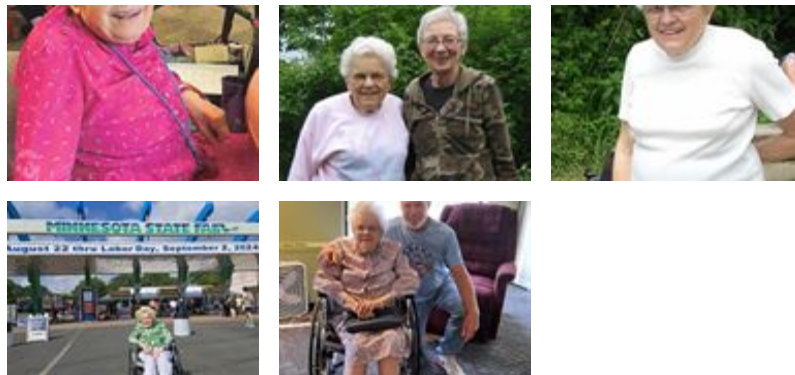
PA

“ I have known Eileen's name since I was a little girl. She was a close friend of my Aunt Lucile (French). I am fairly certain there are photos and/or letters tucked away in my Aunt 'Cile's belongings. More recently, in the last 10 years, I had the privilege of becoming reacquainted with her at Central Mission Church, when my daughter , Sarah and her husband Josiah, were on staff, and another daughter, Sonja, attended there. They got to know "Shorty" much better than I did. :) I was inspired by her solo roadtrip to California (I think it was) to attend C&MA Council when she was in her 80's. Above all, i loved her indomitable spirit and love for the Lord, and her unswerving, caring love for people, which was demonstrated in so many ways. She was a blessing to all of us. On behalf of the French family, I offer condolences as well as honor, knowing that she "fought the good fight."

Patricia A French Anderson - October 02, 2024 at 10:22 PM

Washburn-McReavy
FUNERAL CHAPEL, CREMATION AND
CEMENTATION SERVICES

“ 72 files added to the album Life Tributes



Washburn-McReavy - October 02, 2024 at 11:11 AM

RS

“ Our condolences to the family. It is difficult to someone we love, but comforting to know that she is at peace and with the Lord and did not suffer in the end.

My wife and I met Eileen through my Aunt, Lottie Addington. We first met Eileen about 2009, when we were planning Aunt Lottie's 100th birthday party. Eileen and Lottie had been close friends for many years. When Eileen was working, when she would come home on furlough Lottie would drive her places. When Eileen retired and Lottie was no longer able to drive, Eileen would drive Lottie places. And they liked to go to lunch at House of Wong. Eileen loved to go to House of Wong. Starting in 2010, whenever we came back to Minnesota (we were living in Norfolk, Virginia), we would see Eileen and take her to lunch at House of Wong. We did that at least once a year, until covid hit, then did not get back to Minnesota until 2023, which was the last time that we saw Eileen. We kept in touch, at Christmas and her birthday. We liked to send her complicated jig saw puzzles, which we knew she enjoyed. She was an extraordinary person. Her spirit and determination were something to be admired and emulated. We were impressed by her resilience and work ethic. We remember when, maybe in 2012 or so, she was repainting the windows at her home St. Paul, doing the work herself! And she was gardening. And we were impressed when she went on a many months journey, driving to see her old friends and former students, going all the way to California and back, with many, many stops along the way. She was amazing! We will miss her.

Roger and Paula Stenlund

Roger Stenlund - September 30, 2024 at 06:11 PM



“ My friendship with Eileen began in 2017, as I moved to Minneapolis for a job and began attending Central Mission Alliance church, in the basement of the historic Simpson Memorial Church, where Eileen had such a history.

Already in her 90s, and still driving at that point, Eileen would tell me how she loved winter, as we walked to her parked car at the end of the street in the freezing cold, perhaps due to her first years of life. (Exposure to the elements was thought to be a type of treatment for her condition in those days).

That's just one example of how she had unexpected way of holding/remembering something which I imagine could make another bitter in life.

Eileen was always humbly grateful and reverent before the Lord, saying our prayers in formal King James English. Being a more sentimental personality myself, I tried to elicit emotion from her at times to gain wisdom about how she coped with many difficulties in her life. But Eileen described things in a matter of fact manner, in line with some aptitude testing she had taken early on which suggested for her a career of an engineer or doctor.

In the 2.5 years I lived in Minneapolis (the lesser of the twin cities, she was quick to jab about) we developed a friendship which was enduring even after I moved away. We usually enjoyed making plans with our younger friend Erina, who was good to bring Eileen from St.Paul when we would meet up for all sorts of occasions: Dinner at my place or Lyngblomsten, a movie in the theater, a picnic in Loring Park, MLK Jr. Day at some event center, a walk and drive around Lake Como. She was always up for an adventure and not too old for anything!

I was so impressed how she was making friendships--and keeping up with them, even at the last stage of life. She never failed to ask about my mother and tell me to greet her.

I could go on with a long list of things I came to learn about Eileen, including how she liked to buy the nuts on sale after Christmas at

We Are Nuts!, and her favorite dish of food at House of Wong, or how she didn't particularly like cats!

I admire how she never complained, and was always thinking about others. Of course what I admire most is how she was faithful until the end to her Lord and Savior.

On my last visit to MN last December, I got to see her twice.

I read to her from the book "90 Minutes in Heaven" on the with Audrey, after she had been ill and was too weak to speak, but wanted us to stay. This book told of this pastor's experience of when he died for 90 minutes and experienced heaven, before coming back to his body. When I looked up, to see if she was tracking, she raised her eyebrows and smiled in her whimsical way.

Then, on the final visit with Erina, after we played some scrabble, she kept her tradition of accompanying us to the door, though this time in a wheelchair. I turned to see her again from outside, knowing it would probably be the last time here on earth, and I'm pretty sure she winked as we waved goodbye.

I am so very excited for her homecoming and so very thankful to our Lord for the encouragement I received from her friendship and example here on earth.

Truly her race is run and won by Christ Jesus, and that I know I will see her again, in perfect form, in heaven. Glory to God for the beautiful things He makes out of broken vessels.



Julianne Shelton - September 29, 2024 at 09:56 PM

AS

“ *An inspiring woman after God's heart. She lived with conviction & purpose. What a legacy that will live on from all of her impact! I remember going over to her home with my family and being introduced to real hot sauce she brought home from Africa.*

Amalea (Anderson) Stephens - September 27, 2024 at 10:19 AM

MP

“Eileen was an inspiring lady and I am blessed to have gotten to know her even better while working on her memoir. Her strong but gentle spirit was laced with a bit of stubbornness and strong-will - all of which made her charming and unforgettable. Although her life in Africa was harder than if she had remained behind in the states, she never once spoke of its hardships - she saw beauty and grace in everything. Her zest for life in Africa seemed to magnify her love for her Minnesota roots - especially the MN State Fair and the Como Conservatory. One pic is of Eileen at the Gates Ajar at the Como Conservatory. Her box of Scrabble was always ready for a game (she usually won). I hope they have Scrabble in heaven, if not, Eileen might think of a way smuggle it in. Large puzzles of tiny pieces were thrilling rather than overwhelming to her.

She was humbly proud to pray for Joni Eareckson Tada and I got permission from Joni to include that photo in Eileen's Memoir. Joni sends her condolences and prays for all of us to "know God's sustaining comfort and grace as it is unchanging and everlasting" even while we celebrate her victory in heaven.

Eileen's memoir, CALLED INTO AFRICA, will be available on Amazon in time for her birthday, November 21st. I have room for more pictures - just send pictures (identify people, place, date if possible) and your permission to be included. Send to mariepalecek@gmail.com



Marie Palecek - September 26, 2024 at 10:21 AM



Wow! I had no idea about the memoir--thanks for sharing! I have many of her writings that she copied for me but not in an organized format--this will be great! I will let some of her former students know too.

Julianne Shelton - September 29, 2024 at 10:03 PM



I will try to go through Aunt Lucile's papers and photos to see if I have something interesting.

Patricia A French Anderson - October 02, 2024 at 10:25 PM



An apt observation: "Her zest for life in Africa seemed to magnify her love for her Minnesota roots"....I was amazed at how she came right back to the area where she had grown up, after coming off the field, and planned for her retirement at Lyngstenbloom so far in advance. Then she walked the course.

When I asked her if she desired to return to Africa for a visit, she explained how that would take precious resources away, so that's why she didn't go. Such a practical realist.

On a visit a few years ago, Erina drove us around Lake Como, to a spot she said she used to watch the storms roll in with her father. Again, I was in awe at how many memories were in her head and how much change she had stoically weathered.

Such a personality, submitted to the Lord, gives undeniable witness to how He may make every difference in the surrendered souls life.

Julianne Shelton - October 03, 2024 at 11:22 AM



“ Eileen showing off her tomatoes to our kids June and Elm. We loved our visits with her and it won't be the same without her around.



Kyle Magstadt - September 25, 2024 at 07:12 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 23, 2024 at 10:22 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 23, 2024 at 10:19 PM

JM

“ Eileen was a dear friend to Beverly and me during our years at Simpson Memorial Church, Saint Paul Bible College and Bethel Seminary. Her warm smile, her wit and her indomitable spirit were an inspiration to all who knew her. No one is more deserving of accolades for a life well lived.

James Mason - September 23, 2024 at 05:50 PM

MS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:29 PM

MS

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall

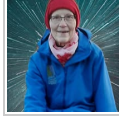


Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:27 PM



I love the State Fair photos. Thank you for posting them!

Carol Lundborg - September 23, 2024 at 10:38 AM



Eileen was a special friend for many years. We attended the same church, she assisted me as a volunteer in my job teaching Ell to adult immigrants, we played tennis games and, above all shared the same faith in our Lord Jesus.

Carol Lundborg - September 23, 2024 at 10:43 AM

MS

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:21 PM

MS

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:17 PM

MS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:10 PM

MS

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:08 PM

MS

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 11:01 PM

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Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 10:50 PM

MS

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Mark Sather - September 22, 2024 at 10:36 PM

SS

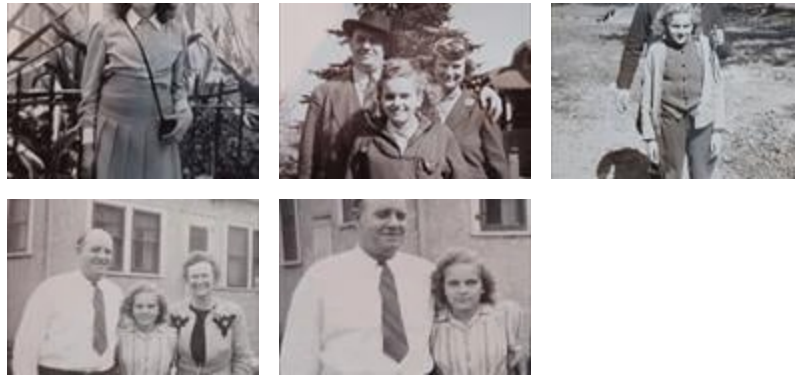
“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 21, 2024 at 10:21 PM

SS

“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 21, 2024 at 10:16 PM

JW

“ I've known Aunt Eileen all my life. My parents gave me her middle name, and she was part of our family. My earliest memory of her was as a 3-year-old, when she traveled with our family through Europe going on furlough. She took my 2-year-old brother and me up a cable car in Geneva, Switzerland, and met our parents at the top of the mountain. She was a woman of her word - I never would have considered the thought that she didn't mean what she said. I never heard her say an unkind word to or about anyone, and she refused to talk about herself and her life-long issues with physical pain. It wasn't until I was older that I found out that she had those issues, and we all praised with her when the Lord took away much of that in a moment of healing. One of my favorite expressions is one I heard her say frequently: "It's a beautiful day - in Chicago!" That was strange, hearing it said in the hinterlands of West Africa, until she told me it was the sign-in call of a radio announcer back in WW2. Apparently, he said it to make sure any enemy listeners didn't take advantage of bad weather to attack Chicago! Anyway, if I stop to think about it, there are many little things like that that remind me how intertwined our lives were, and I am so glad I had the privilege of being a part of her life as well.

Janet Eileen Weiss - September 19, 2024 at 11:13 PM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 19, 2024 at 09:19 PM

BD

“ *Miss Sather was incredibly kind, fiercely independent, loved her "kids" from Mamou, and had such a strong love for God. She taught me many practical things but her life was the best example of all.*

Barbara Demolar - September 18, 2024 at 08:32 PM

TL

“ *Eileen, you were a great storyteller - Thank You.*

Tom Ludden - September 18, 2024 at 05:57 PM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 17, 2024 at 05:56 PM

SS

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Scott Sather - September 17, 2024 at 05:54 PM