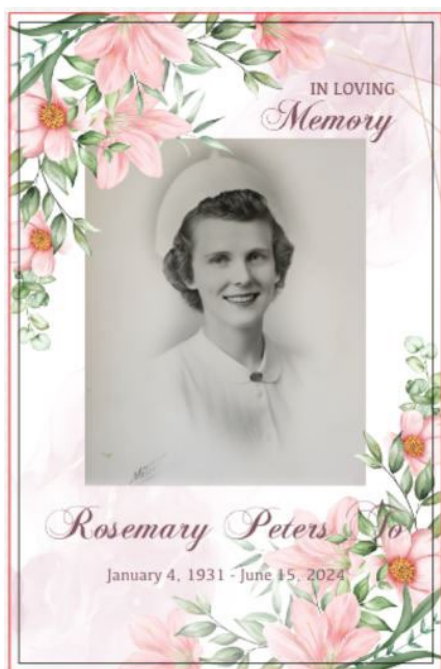


Rosemary Peters To Obituary



Rosemary Peters To passed away peacefully at home in Montebello, CA surrounded by family, on June 15, 2024 at the age of 93. She was born on January 4, 1931, in Hot Springs, South Dakota, daughter of the late William Earl Peters and Lizzie Peters. Rosemary grew up on a homestead built in 1910 by her maternal grandfather, with ten siblings.



Edith, Darlene, Rosemary Peters with parents circa 1934



Rosemary with her goat Hi-dida circa 1942



Rosemary (upper rt) with siblings circa 1953

Her early education encompassed a multi-grade, one room prairie schoolhouse in the township of Lithia, with many of her siblings and cousins. As a teenager, Rosemary lived in a boarding house to attend Hot Springs High School (class of 1949). Known for her big heart and compassion, Rosemary obtained her R.N. Degree from St. Catherine's School of Nursing in Omaha, NE in 1954, and then began her nursing career at the Veterans Administration hospital in Hot Springs, SD. She later moved to Boston and worked at Massachusetts General Hospital during the 1950's polio epidemic. She continued her nursing journey at Harbor General Hospital, Los Angeles in the mid-1950's. Rosemary met Dr. Stanley S. Y. To, at a party in Los Angeles where he was famously playing the piano. They enjoyed nearly 50 years of marriage, and made many wonderful memories with their children, as well as traveling the world.



1955



1956



Rosemary & Stanley married 1962



Rosemary & family circa early 1970s

Her charitable nature and winning smile led her to connect with and contribute to many wide-ranging community-oriented organizations (Montebello PTA, Boy Scouts, Music Center Education Guild, Montebello Woman's Club, Cross & Crown Lutheran church, Montebello YMCA Community Garden, Montebello election committee, the Breakfast Club and the United Methodist Church of Montebello)

throughout her life. She was an avid supporter of the Arts in the Los Angeles area, frequently attending live theater and concert events.

Rosemary always had a keen eye for a bargain, and appreciated the joy-of-the hunt at rummage sales, estate sales and auctions. She found meaning and splendor in every item and sought to match it to a useful owner. She was also a great lover of animals, and no stray was ever turned away. She embodied goodwill in every sense of the word, adopting not just animals but also humans in need; this led her to host two homeless women at her home for over two years. It was this generosity of character that made her someone to emulate. Let us remember her not with sadness but with the light and love she shared with us. May her life inspire us to live with kindness, courage, and an unwavering belief in the power of humanity. Rosemary said as part of her autobiography- "When I look back, I can say that my life has been a most interesting and enjoyable one. I started from humble beginning but had wonderful, sincere, helpful and loving people to help me every step of the way. I tried to always make good choices and stay out of trouble. I knew that my parents expected me to do something worthwhile with my life."



Stanley & Rosemary's family ~2009

She is survived by her five children, twelve grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. As well as her sisters: Alice Peters, Flora Stearns, Helen Peters, Betty Crippen, and Pauline Staben. In addition to her parents and her beloved husband Dr. Stanley S.Y. To, Rosemary was also preceded in death by her sisters Mary, Darlene, Edith, Carol Mae and brother Clayton.



The sisters in 2013: Rosemary, Betty, Alice, Flora, Edith, Helen, & Pauline

Rosemary will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all those whose lives she touched with her kindness and care.

A memorial service was held at the United Methodist Church, Montebello, CA to honor and celebrate Rosemary's life on Sunday, July 7, 2024 at 4 pm.



Celebration-of-Life July 2024



Eulogy – Dr. John To (eldest son)



Rosemary's ashes will be laid to rest at Horse Head Cemetery, Fall River County, Hot Springs, SD on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at 2 p.m.

