Barbara Jackson Greene

October 29, 1922 – June 16, 2010

Obituary

Barbara Jackson Greene has navigated her wave of life to shore. On June 16, 2010 she passed through the sands of time to join her husband Mark H. Greene in more eternal realms. Barbara was born on October 29, 1922 to Ella Matilda Nilsson and Nathaniel Jackson. She grew up in "The little house on 5th West".

Experiencing storms on life's sea, Barbara was never driven off course by any wave or wind of doctrine because she was focused on the lighthouse of the Lord. Her heart was softened and lightened with spiritual knowledge. This kept her breathing visions of fresh air in spite of waves of unbelief.

Great faith marked her life.

"Keep looking forward and just do it" were her mantras. She could not be sifted like wheat. She stood her ground and stayed afloat, confident of her bearings. She stood for righteousness when conformity would not do.

Barbara nurtured well. She gave birth to six children and fed five of them through her life with cooking, companionship, comfort, and council. The scope of her nurturing spread to "other children" perhaps because she had no siblings and was robbed of her father at the age of 12.

Barbara mingled well, bringing the east and west sides of the tracks together in marriage. Pride and status dissolved in her presence. The value of each soul was great in her eyes.

Most of Barbara's life was anxiously engaged in a good cause. From Relief Society president to earning a Silver Beaver in Scouting, she was about laying foundations to better the lives of others. Her great work was to forge a compound in one with her husband. She tied a lasting knot in marriage that will be a foundation for her family in eternity.

Mark and Barbara had remarkable vision and ability to restore the past. In Barbara's memoirs she said, "My favorite times were spent listening to my mother tell of the things they did when she was a child . . . I spent hours pretending and dreaming, keeping me from being a lonely only child." The Greene House and Greene Gate Village in St. George, Utah, while slowly passing back into the hands of time, will forever be their restoration monument. Perhaps it was their way of expressing the eternal round in all of us.

Barbara never learned how to swim but she stayed afloat by surrounding herself with people who swam well. Then she developed the faith to walk on water. As she said, "If I had my life to live over, I'd do it all the same." She was not perfect, but with "righteousness as the waves of the sea," she sought perfection in a life navigated by faith. Barbara's wave to perfection can best be described by her favorite saying of Tennyson: "All experience is an arch where through gleams life's untravelled road, whose margin fades forever and forever as I move." On a wave of righteousness and faith we must move forward, unafraid of the untravelled road.

In her wake to follow are three sons and two daughters, Mark (Jill), Richard (Carolyn), Karen (Tres), Anne and John, who have started waves of 18 grandchildren and in turn 23 great-grandchildren. May they all be waves of righteousness and faith.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Sunrise Senior Living of Holladay for their kind and loving care, and the comforting care from Care Source Hospice.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 12:00 Noon, at the Garden Park Ward, 1150 East Yale Ave. Friends and family may visit Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Larkin Mortuary, 260 E. South Temple, and from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. prior to services at the Ward. Interment in the Salt Lake City Cemetery.