

*A Celebration of Life
In honor of the beloved*

† *Mary Helena Augusta Scotland* †

April 7th, 1938—January 30th, 2021



To Robert Scotland, Family & Friends

*... The Lord gave and the Lord
hath taken away,
Blessed be the name of the Lord!
Job 1:21*

It is with deepest sympathy that I express my heartfelt condolence on the passing of your beloved mother, kin and friend:

†Mary Scotland†

Words on such solemn occasions are but kind gestures that hope to find a way to soothe the heart and ease the pain of such a monumental loss.

Days like this are unwelcome and we wish they would never exist. Nevertheless, being mortals, we are well aware that moments like this will come and modify our lives forever.

What gives meaning and adds value to our lives? We submit to you, it is the experiences we share with those we love. It is the interaction with family and friends in the construction of our world. We are not an island unto ourselves but participants in the community of our friends and relations. Within this community we have our inner circle of those who matter most of all.

When a member of our circle leaves through the door of death, it hurts and results in emotional pain because a vital part of our existence is gone.

†Mary Scotland† contributed to our world and together we shared memorable experiences. She was a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a provider. She was an educator and she was a woman of faith, conviction, integrity and of purpose.

*Personally, I fondly remember †**Mary Scotland**† as the mother-in-law of my late sister, Jennifer Scotland. To me, she was a woman of strong conviction and quiet determination.*

In the times we met, she did not say much but was always cordial and pleasant and in her eyes one could see that she was an astute analytical observer of human character.

Our families enjoyed each others' company when we assembled together for various functions. When my sister departed from this life, she and the family were there sharing in our common grief.

*†**Mary Scotland**† was the anchor of the family WhatsApp's chat and she posted positive and uplifting messages. This was the medium through which she shared and demonstrated the Faith that shape and molded her character. She believed in her duty to God and the power of prayer. She was dutiful in her religious devotion and faithful in her Church worship.*

To soothe and ease the pain of this transition, we are consoled by precious memories, oh how they linger, oh how they flood our souls - in the stillness or at random, precious memories do unfold.

Memories are a mix bag of the good, the bad and the ugly but it is those sweet memories that we hold most dear. Yesterday's disagreements do not matter anymore for in our imperfect lives, we must learn to forgive and to love again and again.

We share with you this sense of loss, while yet trusting in Yahweh's, (God's) sustaining Grace.

The Christian faith teaches us that every goodbye is not gone but somewhere over the rainbow in Yahweh's tomorrow, we will meet again! As sure as we exist now, we will exist again!

*Though †**Mary Scotland**† has left this mortal sphere, her physical touch, her audible voice, her unique mannerisms, her hearty smile and sweet laughter, will forever be a part of us.*

Each one will have their own unique and cherished memories and special recollections of how she influenced, impacted and shaped our world. Sometimes in reflection, we will smile or laugh and at other times we will shed a tear, for this is a response of love - a rose will bloom and a petal will fall.

The greatest fear in love is to lose the object of our love, but the greatest joy of love is having loved and being loved in returned.

*I pray that †**Mary Scotland's**† resilient faith may exist in you also. This will maintain and sustain you during life's uncertainties. Only faith gives strength to hope in the matter of death and the expectations beyond.*

In the immediate days ahead, shed your tears wherever and whenever, but not in sorrow but in thanksgiving and in gratitude for her life. As painful as it is to say good-bye, we must accept Heaven's verdict and Yahweh's (God's) will. Therefore we commend her body, soul and spirit, back to Yahweh who gave it. May mercy and forgiveness suit her case. May peace and pardon welcome her into Paradise, that oasis that Yeshua (Jesus Christ) has prepared for those that loved and served him on earth and now rest from their labors.

*May †**Mary Scotland**† rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon her, until destiny brings us together again!*

In Loving Memory of

† *Mary Helena Augusta Scotland* †

*“But the souls of the righteous are in the hands of
God, no torment shall ever touch them.
In the eyes of the unwise, they appear to die,
Their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us,
like annihilation; but they are at peace.”*

The Book of Wisdom: Chapter 3



*O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*From:
The Rev. Vernon T. Smith
Mt. Vernon, New York*