

Dottie



I wish you could have known my friend Dottie. We were blessed to meet her and her husband Everett when my husband, Bruce, worked under Everett in the photo lab at the North Dakota Air National Guard. To say that Dottie was petite is something of an understatement. She stood less than five feet tall, and often struggled to find clothes that would fit her, and even more so, shoes that would fit her dainty size 5 feet. But God somehow managed to fit an enormous heart into her small frame, one that thrived on loving and nurturing everyone she met. As we all do, she went through hardships in her life, but God's grace shone through her as she met each one. When Everett's health began to fail, she lovingly

cared for him, anticipating his every need. Everett passed away two years ago, and Dottie, although deeply feeling the loss of her life partner of 65 years, chose to make the most of her lifestyle in assisted living. She told me one day that she'd decided to bravely approach each as-yet unfamiliar person there, stick out her hand and say, "Hi, I'm Dottie." Soon she was known and loved by everyone whose path she crossed. She was the embodiment of the fruit of the Spirit – each day she lived out love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. When she left Fargo almost two years ago to live close to her daughter in the Denver area, we were saddened and felt a void in our lives. We were able to visit on the phone and made a trip there for one precious in-person visit with her last year. Yesterday Dottie was reunited with her Savior and her beloved Everett. Again, we are saddened, but give God thanks for the incomparable blessing that was Dottie. Our prayer is that everyone would have at least one friend along life's way such as she, and that we can be the people she thought we were. We love you forever, Dottie.

Marsha Danuser

Scripture:

Galatians 5:22-23

Proverbs 17:17

John 15:12

Proverbs 27:17

Romans 12:10

1 Peter 4:8-10

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10