

TERESA MANWARING
Funeral Talk by brother-in-law, Dave Manwaring
May 1, 1967

Brothers and Sisters, Friends and Relatives and especially the immediate family of Sister Teresa Manwaring:
This is a difficult assignment for me.

This is a beautiful occasion. Teresa is here surrounded by beautiful flowers, her friends, her relatives and her family. I'm sure she and Arthur are here in spirit and the Spirit of the Lord is with us, and what could be more beautiful. How happy she must be now reunited with her husband, Arthur, and other loved ones.

This is a time of taunt heart strings and mixed emotions. We're happy – yet we're sad. Tears flow in the thought that we will be denied now in this life of seeing, associating, and mingling with this lovely person again and yet we're glad that she could advance into the next sphere, where conditions, we are sure, are more exciting, more enjoyable, more satisfying and wonderful.

Teresa has lived a pretty full and complete life. As I review her span of years here, I wonder that more could have been added. I can only think of a few minor things that might have been conducive to a greater fullness. If she could have had Arthur longer, if her eyesight had been a little better these later years and a few other situations might have made life for her a little more enjoyable and complete. But My! Otherwise what a wonderful and satisfying life.

She was born of goodly parents in a nice, quiet clean and sociable community in Utah. Her early childhood was exciting, wholesome, and satisfying. She had tutorship in nice schools; a grounding in spirituality in the church and its activities. She grew to womanhood clean, pure and wholesome and married a fine, clean man and they together laid their foundation for their future kingdom of Godship.

Teresa and Arthur made a lovely young couple. I can see them now. Enthusiastic, happy, full of life, full of fun, walking hand in hand from their temporary home on the Groveland town site each day to their farm and prospective home some two miles north.

Well, what a fine posterity they had. Three robust, strong, sturdy sons and three lovely, beautiful, vivacious and talented daughters, all here today to bless her memory. Teresa and Arthur now have a total posterity of sixty two, including forty-one grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. What a wonderful foundation for a kingdom in the great hereafter. All the posterity surround Teresa here today except Wanda's Dixie, now serving the church in Finland and Marie's Steven, in New York, Kathleen in Las Vegas, Diane in Salt Lake and Holley's Brett in Georgia and Shelia in California.

I imagine these far-aways, unable to attend are spending today in contemplation, and sweet memories and with a few tears.

It seems as you look back over things,
That all you treasure dear
Is somehow blent in a wonderous
Way with a heart pang and a tear
Though many a day is a joyous one
When viewed by itself apart.
The golden threads in the warp of life
Are the sorrow tugs at your heart.

Reflecting back on Teresa, I can't ever remember seeing her loose her temper. My own mother passed away when I was about seventeen and Arthur and Teresa were my confidants, my ideals, my source of comfort and consolation. I lived with them sometimes. As a young upstart, I must have provoked them plenty, but they were always considerate and understanding. They never did have a lot of worldly good, fine clothes, and fine furniture. I remember though a fine dining table on which one afternoon, while home alone, I pressed my pants, causing the varnish to all turn white and practically ruined its appearance. Did Teresa chew me out as she probably should have done? No, although I'm sure she was quite heart broken,

she tactfully expressed her displeasure and sorrow to Arthur who carefully and tactfully explained the thoughtlessness, the damage and disappointment to me.

Teresa was talented, especially in music. All her family have this legacy. She could play most any tune on the piano, just making up as she went along. Most of you are aware of Marie and her music, which is being sung church wide through the world.

Well, Manwaring's all – This is the last reunion with Teresa in attendance. We'll miss her cheery smile – her wholesome jokes, her reminiscences, her hearty laughter and her skits now when we all meet each year up in the pines at reunion.

Outstanding only last year at our reunion at one of our semi planned and impromptu programs, a clamor was set up for Teresa to play the piano – “We want Teresa – We want Teresa – Come on Teresa.” She was not one to unduly refuse her talent, so she ambles up to the piano and – bless her heart – with her limited and dim eyesight, unable to see the keys, she oriented herself by feel and then she began. The old familiar tunes rolled out at perfect time and tempo – no hesitation, no loss of rhythm or missed keys – on and on the old piano responded to our merriment, delight and enjoyment. Yes, we will miss Teresa.

Her earth life is done. Her mission accomplished – She has earned her immortal reward. It is for us, the living, to forever cherish her memory and emulate her fine qualities.

It is for her posterity to honor the heritage left them by being faithful, true, honest, upright and an asset to society. To forever give to society their level best – as Teresa has done.

As so, Teresa, we'll say farewell for now, and as the lighthearted say, “We'll be seein' ya.”

God bless us all that we may live lives of worthiness, I pray in Jesus name.

Amen

Dave Manwaring (brother-in-law)