



## Marion L. Muthiah

August 23, 1933 - June 25, 2018

Marion Lorene (Unkenholz) Muthiah died at the age of 84 on Monday, June 25, 2018.

She was born to H. Grant and Isabelle Unkenholz on August 23, 1933, in Mandan, ND. After attending rural school and Mandan High School, she enrolled at Taylor University in the pre-nursing program and received a BA in 1956. She was a graduate of the Bismarck Hospital School of Nursing.

As a sophomore in high school, she felt the call to be a missionary. She eventually followed this calling by enrolling in Scarritt College for Christian Workers in Nashville, TN. It was there that she met her future husband, Lionel Muthiah. They were married on August 28, 1959, and soon after moved to Malaysia. Lorene and Lora, their twin daughters, were born in Malaysia; sons Robert and Richard were born after the family returned to the United States.

Marion and Lionel later served as missionaries in Medan, Indonesia, and Sibu, Malaysia. Upon returning to the United States in 1976, Marion worked as a nurse in North and South Dakota as Lionel served in different congregational appointments.

Marion and Lionel spent the first 17 years of retirement in her home town of Mandan, ND. They moved to Oregon in 2009 and lived in Friendsview Retirement Community.

Marion was active with the United Methodist Church, providing leadership in local United Methodist Women's groups and serving with the Board of Global Ministries. She was also active in Kiwanis; Marion was a charter member of one of the first Kiwanis clubs to admit women and served as Governor of the Kiwanis Minnesota-Dakotas District.

She loved music. She was an accomplished piano player, played the organ and accordion, and sang in her church choirs. She is also remembered for her heart for service and her love of learning. She enjoyed reading, sewing, gardening, and arranging flowers.

Marion is survived by her husband Lionel, her four children, Lorene Coffey (Batavia, IL), Lora Helton (Franklin, TN), Robert Muthiah (Altadena, CA), Richard Muthiah (Newberg, OR); fifteen grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, with a second great-grandchild due soon. She is also survived by her siblings, Grant Unkenholz (Breckenridge, MN), Richard Unkenholz (Prescott, AZ), Ruth Case (Kokomo, IN), and James Unkenholz (Bismarck, ND).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 2. 11:00 AM (PT)

Newberg First United Methodist Church  
1205 Deborah Road  
Drive  
Newberg, OR 97132

# Tribute Wall

OB

“ My late wife Theresa and my 3 daughters knew the Muthiah family well during our time together in Medan North Sumatra where we produced plays and musicals together. I will email Lionel privately. Marion was always a kind loving and fun filled character much admired by the very mixed community in Indonesia in the late sixties. I am now 88 living in a Retirement Village in Canberra. Some readers might remember me Oliver Baudert.

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**Oliver Baudert** - July 07, 2018 at 08:28 PM

RA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Ravi alfreds** - July 04, 2018 at 09:54 PM

JP

“ Lionel was our minister in Linton ND when we were a newly married couple 31 years ago. Lionel and Marion were such an inspiration as to what a marriage can be when you have God as the center of it. We were so blessed to have Marion and her musical talent. She was such a caring and loving person. Their family is a testament of the love they had for God and each other. Our condolences to Lionel and his family.

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**Jim and Corene Purintun** - July 02, 2018 at 11:34 AM

CM

“ I went to their wedding and it was the most memorable wedding I ever attended. That Unkenholz family has always been so loving and caring.

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**Caren mikesell** - July 01, 2018 at 05:48 PM

DU

“ I remember being at the farm when she arrived a few days before her wedding. She was so excited and pleased that Lionel was there waiting for her some 59 Year's ago. She was always interested in what her nieces and nephews were doing.

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**Dennis Unkenholz** - June 29, 2018 at 05:16 PM

ST

*Marion was always willing to lead whatever was asked of her. She was a wonderful seamstress. She loaned shoes to people that forgot theirs. A good driver and companion on the road going to MW doings. I never hear s negative or unkind word from her.  
She will be missed by more than one can begin to imagine As our Lord is welcoming her with wide open arms.*

**sandy toepje** - July 03, 2018 at 05:41 PM

RN

*“ Absolutely loved knowing Marion. Worked with her for years through United Methodist Women and had the opportunity to stay with them on several occasions. She was a wonder person and will be missed by all that knew her. Keeping Lionel and the family in my prayers.*

**Robyn Nadvornik** - June 28, 2018 at 04:00 PM

JK

*“ So enjoyed getting to know her through the Dakotas United Methodist Historical Society ... lovely lady!! Blessings to Lionel and all the family.*

**Jaquelyn Keck** - June 28, 2018 at 10:23 AM

JK

*“ Aunt Marion was a very sweet lady, very elegant and caring. We will miss her.*



**Jeanne Unkenholz Kolberg** - June 28, 2018 at 09:22 AM

RH

*“ Our love and condolences to Lionel and all of dear Marion's family. We are proud that we can say that Marion was a loving, longtime friend. We remember the good times we had in Malaysia and when we had Lionel and Marion visit us here in Canberra. Prayers for Lionel, the children and grandchildren and all the family.  
Renny & Justus*

**Renny Havelock** - June 28, 2018 at 04:30 AM

GP

*“ Prayers for you Lionel and your family. Mark and Ginger Phillips*

**Ginger Phillips** - June 28, 2018 at 12:25 AM

SV

“ *Shantini Vanniasingham lit a candle in memory of Marion L. Muthiah*



shantini vanniasingham - June 27, 2018 at 09:38 PM

RP

“ *Marion: Lovely Lovely Lady and Blessed Servant of Christ! Ron Parrish*

Ronald W. Parrish - June 27, 2018 at 08:20 AM

JG

“ *Lionel and family. So sorry to hear of Marion's passing. You are so special to Larry and Me and you are in our thoughts and prayers. Jan and Larry Griffin.*

Jan Griffin - June 26, 2018 at 09:49 PM

PA

*Lionel uncle and family sorry to hear of lost. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Love from Ravi and Pathmini*

pathmini.Ravindran - June 28, 2018 at 11:13 AM

PA

*May souls rest in peace*

pathmini.Ravindran - June 28, 2018 at 11:14 AM

NE

*Met her only once in 1976 in Srilanka with her husband my cousin Revd.Lionel Muthiah and with 4 children. missed meeting them again in three occasions in Germany, Malaysia and in USA. I thank God for all the blessings. and pray her soul to RIP. I will pray for all her family and friends to comfort and peace. Heartfelt condolences.*

Nesarajah - June 29, 2018 at 06:16 AM

BL

*Lionel and Family: We are saddened to learn of Marion's passing. Please know you have our prayers and condolences. She was a grand gentlewoman. Dixie and Bill Lardy*

Bill Lardy - June 30, 2018 at 12:04 PM

MM

*I went to Taylor University with Marion. She was a positive influence on the campus in leadership roles. I was proud that we were both from North Dakota and she was my friend. Max Meier*

Max Meier - July 03, 2018 at 03:58 PM

RT

*Deep condolences from Wesley Methodist Church (Sibu, Sarawak, Malaysia).*

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**Rev Jabez Tiong** - July 04, 2018 at 02:14 AM