



Rachel Wray Finch Sterrett

June 23, 1916 - June 19, 2012

Rachel Wray Finch Sterrett Rachel Wray Finch was born to Mary Elizabeth Deans Finch and Frank Journey Finch in Wilson, North Carolina, on June 23, 1916. She was the last of four children. After the Crash of 1929, Rachel and her family moved to Washington, D.C. where she attended secretarial school. She was employed with the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department and then was secretary to Representative Griswold (R) of Wisconsin. She married William Wilson Sterrett on December 19, 1936. Bill was also a secretary, but “across the aisle”, to Congressman Nelson (D) Missouri. They moved to Slater, Missouri, after World War II to Bill’s hometown. He was the City Attorney there for 33 years and she enjoyed making a home for them and their two sons, Joseph Burks and James Roger and the family dog, ‘Pache. Rachel was an accomplished seamstress and a great cook. She sang in the Slater Presbyterian Church choir and did many acts of kindness while they lived in Slater. She enjoyed reciting poetry, playing bridge and canasta and a highlight of her life was traveling to Plains, Georgia, to welcome President Jimmy Carter home after his term in office. Bill and Rachel were married for 63 years. Bill passed away on June 20, 1999. Rachel moved west to Oregon in 2002 to join her son, Joe, and his wife, Cathy, but at least she came by airplane, not in a covered wagon! Rachel passed away June 19, 2012 at the Newberg Care Home, Newberg, Oregon at the age of 96. She is survived by her sons Joseph (Catherine Roberts Sterrett) of Sherwood, Oregon, and James (Mary Kabyn Sterrett) of Balzac, Alberta, Canada, and three

grandchildren: Michael Wilson (Laura Cooper Sterrett) of Nashua, New Hampshire, Suzanne Elizabeth Le (Phuong Le) of Sherwood, Oregon, and Russell William Sterrett of Balzac, Alberta, Canada. She also leaves six great-grandchildren. Her Funeral Service will be Friday, June 22, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. in Attrell's Sherwood Funeral Chapel, a Golden Rule Funeral Home, with Pastor Brett Meador officiating. Chapel Viewing and Visitation hours are Friday, June 22 from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. An additional Funeral Service will be held Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in Slater Presbyterian Church, Slater, Missouri. Interment will follow in Slater City Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.attrells.com

Tribute Wall

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“ Joe, Cathy, Jim, Mary and Family~ I was so sorry to hear of Little Rachel's passing...Rachel and I had many fun times while I was working at Miramont Pointe!! She was such an amazing lady...she had the best stories of her life and also the most clever sayings that I have ever heard!! When Tim and I moved into the retirement community our apartment was across the hall from Rachel and every night before we went to bed I would stop by and we would visit about how our day went or she would tell me one of her great stories. Another tradition that Rachel started was bringing a goodie bag from the dining room for our dog Dexter...in the in the 9 months that we lived at Miramont Dexter gained 20 pounds from all of the meat that Rachel would deliver...Dexter would look forward to his nightly visit from Rachel also! A few of the memories that stand out in my mind are Tim and Rachel had a birthday pie cook off...Tim made Rachel a coconut cream pie for her birthday and Rachel made Tim a pecan pie for his birthday, their birthdays are 7 days apart. While we were at the Pointe Tim and I discovered that I was pregnant with our twin girls and being newly pregnant we did not want to say a thing to anybody to jinx it...Rachel was one of the few people that knew..she was so excited for us, that gave us a lot to talk about on our nightly visits. We continued our nightly visits/calls even after we moved out of Miramont Pointe. After the twins were born and just days old Tim went and picked Rachel up and brought her over to our house and she was our first visitor to hold our girls...she sat in the recliner and just held and loved those babies!! My girls loved Rachel too!! They think of her as their grand-ma...when we would stop and visit they would push her in her chair, hold her had and just love her as she loved them. I was so blessed to have been a part of her life...even for a short time. Kathy Bruegman

Kathy Bruegman - June 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM