

## Alice Mae Noll Darnell, 1931-2020



Alice Mae Noll Darnell, resident of Orange City, FL, passed away on April 23, 2020, at age 89, following a brief hospitalization.

A memorial service is being planned for mid-2021, when family and friends are able to gather again as a group. Her ashes have been interred in the Memorial Garden at Orange City United Methodist Church, beside those of Greg, her husband of 61 years.

Alice was born in the small farming community of Jamesport, MO, on March 22, 1931, to Maggie and Earl Noll. She grew up with siblings Norma, LeRoy, and C.E. on the family farm. In her senior year of high school in Jamesport, the class took their senior trip to Colorado Springs, CO. She enjoyed the area so much that three years later, she moved there.

While in Colorado Springs, she was part of a young adults' group at First Methodist Church. She became friends with an Air Force Staff Sergeant, Greg Darnell. After his stint in the Air Force was up, he returned to Seattle to attend University of Washington. They corresponded by mail through most of a year, until in November Greg proposed marriage. They were married in Colorado Springs June 16, 1956.

Greg and Alice lived in Seattle while Greg attended the Engineering School at UW, and Alice worked at Pacific Telephone Company as a clerk-typist ("putting hubby through school" as she put it). After graduation, Greg worked for The Boeing Company. Daughters Wanda and Wendy were born soon thereafter.

During the 32 years Greg worked at Boeing, the family was transferred to several locations – Huntsville, AL (twice); New Orleans area; and Seattle (again). In each location, Alice managed the girls' school and extra-curricular activities, and was a faithful volunteer at the local United Methodist Church. After Greg's retirement, they remained in Madison, AL while Greg became a lay minister for their church.

In 2000, after Greg retired from his ministry, they relocated to John Knox Village in Orange City, FL. This location enabled Alice to be near her sister Norma and her mother Maggie, who lived in the Daytona Beach area.

Alice and Greg were devoted partners, supporting each other in their commitments, hobbies, and in the business of daily life. They participated in, and then were leaders for, Walk to Emmaus, Marriage Encounter, and Cursillo personal and faith development programs.

Alice lived with rheumatoid arthritis most of her adult life, although she never let it get in her way. With a regimen of medications, occasional surgeries, and a positive attitude, she was able to remain mobile and active. She and Greg enjoyed traveling to beautiful places around the United States and Canada, whether by themselves (usually meeting up with family and friends on the way) or in group tours.

After Greg died in 2017, Alice continued connecting with friends in her community and at church. She continued to volunteer as Financial Secretary and office helper at OCUMC. Her calendar was always full. She was always happiest when busy serving others and "doing things". Alice enjoyed remembering

friends and family by sending them customized cards for birthdays and other special events. She had a quirky sense of humor, enjoyed puns and silly wordplay, and loved to relax watching Hallmark Channel movies and familiar shows like “M\*A\*S\*H” and “Barney Miller.” She especially enjoyed the occasional Arby’s slider, curly fries, and Jamocha shake.

Alice Darnell is survived by daughters Wanda Garrett (Mike Garrett) and Wendy Darnell (Brady Alexander), and grandchildren Jeremy, Tegan, Kasey, and Cory.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations be sent to Orange City United Methodist Church, 396 E University Ave, Orange City, FL 32763, in her memory.