

CLARA ATHENA BERG (APRIL 1, 1912 - JULY 3, 2009)

Clara Athena Lehman Berg was born April 1, 1912 in Oneida, South Dakota and passed on July 3, 2009. Our precious loving angel Clara Berg met the Lord on July 3rd, 2009. She died of congestive heart failure. Clara was surrounded by her two granddaughters Sonya Berg and Sherri Zorn.

Ms. Berg was living in an assisted living facility in San Diego, CA. Clara Berg is survived by her two sons Carl and Clyde Berg, who live in Northern California and her three grand daughters Sonya Berg, Sherri Zorn and Kara Berg who live in San Diego, California and Los Gatos, California, respectively. Clara is also survived by her 5 great-grandchildren who live in San Diego, CA.

Clara Berg was living and actively involved in the community in Tukumcari, NM from 1938-December 2008. Clara moved to San Diego in December of 2008 to be closer to her sons and grand children. Clara and her husband, Carl, were married on July 7th, 1936 in Denver, CO. They came to Tukumcari, NM in 1938, at which time Carl was employed by the Tukumcari Irrigation Project building the Conchas Dam Charles Street Canal. Clara's husband Carl died in a cave-in accident during the construction of the tunnel under the town. Her sons were nine and eleven years old at the time.

Clara taught school in the Tukumcari School System for 26 years until her retirement in 1974. Clara earned her masters degree in 1955 while she was teaching. She taught 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Clara was also a den mother for the boy scouts in 1947. Clara love Tukumcari, the Baptist Church, all of her many friend and especially those who help and assisted her in her later years.

Clara was active in the Tukumcari First Baptist Church. She taught four year olds in Sunday School and Vacation Bible School for fifty years. Clara received a plaque from the NM Baptist Women's Missionary for teaching Sunday school for 50 years. Clara was also on the bereavement committee at the church and taught missionary and disciple classes on Weds. and Sun. nights. In addition, Clara went on several missionary trips to Gallup, NM and Brazil, South America.

Clara always had a concern for disadvantaged families and children in particular. She would collect, wash and mend clothing and then distribute

them to underprivileged families and children during these years. She continually bought clothing and Christmas gifts for the needy.

Clara received many awards and honors during her years. She received the "Lady of the Year" award from the Lions Club in 1973; "Retired Woman of the Year" from the Altrusa Club in 1976; "Citizen of the Week" from the Tucumcari Radio Station KTNM in 1981. Clara was listed in the American Biographical Institute for community leaders in 1976/77. She was honored by "seven who care" Amarillo, TX television station. She was inducted into the Teachers Hall of Fame and was given the retired teachers association certificate of appreciation in 1982. Clara was honored with a plaque as the Outstanding Citizen from the Woodmen of the World Society in 1982.

Clara Berg held many offices for organizations throughout her lifetime. Clara was the President of The China Painters and The Community Concert Association; President of the Garden Club, Retired Teachers Association, Extension Club and Delta Kappa Gamma. Clara served as the secretary, president and chairperson for the American Cancer Society from 1990-1994. She was a volunteer for the Hospital Auxiliary and President and Secretary of the Auxiliary. Clara was President of the Liberty Extension Club as well.

Services honoring Clara's Life will be held on the following days:

Weds., July 8th, 2009 at 4:00 pm. There will be a graveside service in Paonia, Colorado. A dinner will be held afterward.

Fri, July 10th, 2009 at 4:00 pm. A Celebration of Clara's Life at The First Baptist Church, Tucumcari, NM. A buffet and social gathering will follow afterward at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The First Baptist Church, Tucumcari or American Heart Association

