

Carol Ann Hunt Pierce 1936-2012



Carol Hunt Pierce of Chicago, Illinois died from complications of cardio-pulmonary disease on September 20, 2012. She was 76. As a leader of church renewal and worldwide missions, Carol's life work was the Ecumenical Institute and the Institute of Cultural Affairs, serving in numerous leadership roles in many locations from 1965 until 2006 when she retired. She continued to work from home until 2012. Today we honor her and celebrate her completed life.

Carol Ann Hunt was born on April 17, 1936, to James F. and Ruth C. Hunt, of Huntington, West Virginia. She attended Emmons Elementary, Enslow Junior High and Huntington East High School. She graduated in May, 1954 as Salutatorian of her class.

Carol attended Marshall College in Huntington and graduated in 1958 with a degree in English. She then attended Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and earned a Master's degree in Christian Education. She moved to Greenville, South Carolina where she served as Director of Religious Education for Trinity Methodist Church for two years. She then moved to Columbia, South Carolina, where she was Assistant Director of the Wesley Foundation at the University of South Carolina. While at the University, Carol attended a lecture by Joseph W. Mathews and participated in events of the Ecumenical Institute. She met Joe Pierce and others involved with the mission of the Institute.

Carol moved to Chicago's West Side in December, 1965 and joined the Institute. She married Joseph L. Pierce, Jr. in 1966. She worked as a teacher and developed programs including the Global Academy. She worked with the EI/ICA in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, India, Canada, Europe and the United States. She returned to Chicago and worked for the ICA in development fundraising. She cared for her husband over a long illness until his death in 1993.

Carol struggled with COPD and physical disability resulting from a fall and hip replacement surgery. She courageously embraced challenges she met at each stage of her life. After leaving the ICA in 2006, she continued to mentor and support her colleagues, friends and family involved in a multitude of enterprises throughout the world. She maintained her joyful spirit and critical intelligence to her last days.

Her survivors are one brother, James Patrick Hunt, and sister-in-law Patricia (Patty) and niece, Kristen Hunt of NC, one sister June H. Walker, and brother-in-law Richard B. Walker of West Virginia, three nephews, David Price (Angela) of Pennsylvania, Douglas Price (Annie) of WV, and Greg Price (Michel) of Ohio and seven great-nephews and five great-nieces.

Other survivors include one step-daughter, Catherine Pierce, three step-sons, Mark Pierce (Estelle) of Georgia, Dale Pierce (Mary) of Wisconsin and Greg Pierce (Siobhan) of New Jersey, one grand-daughter, Rosa Loeb of Ohio, and three grandsons, Joseph Pierce of Florida, Christopher Dilday of Georgia and Matthew Pierce of New Jersey.

In memory of Carol Pierce, tax deductible donations may be made to the Institute of Cultural Affairs/The Ecumenical Institute, 4750 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60640. Carol would be very honored.

PASTORAL WITNESS

REFLECTIONS BY FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Richard B. Walker
Mark Joseph McMullen-Bushman
Catherine Pierce
Terry D. Bergdall

HYMN – O God, Our Help In Ages Past

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

No!

In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us.
We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
Will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

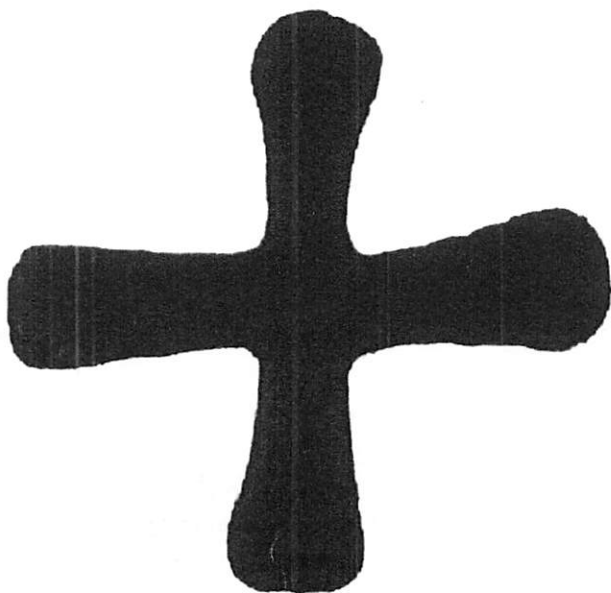
God of love, we thank you for all with which you have blessed us even to this day:
For the gift of joy in days of health and strength, and for the gifts of your abiding presence and promise in days of pain and grief.
We praise you for home and friends, and for our baptism and place in your church with all who have faithfully lived and died.
Above all else we thank you for Jesus, who knew our griefs, who died our death and rose for our sake, and who lives and prays for us.
And as he taught us, so now we pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN – For All the Saints

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING



... I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present,
nor things to come, nor powers, nor height,
nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
In Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8: 38-39

Celebrating the Life of

Carol Ann Hunt Pierce

April 17, 1936 – September 20, 2012

Officiant: Reverend Charles Hahn

October 20, 2012 2:00 p.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

GATHERING

THE WORD OF GRACE

GREETING

HYMN - Holy, holy, holy!

PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we praise you for the great company of all those who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labor.

We praise you for those dear to us whom we name in our hearts before you. Especially we praise you for Carol, whom you have graciously received into your presence.

To all of these, grant your peace.

Let perpetual light shine upon them; and help us so to believe where we have not seen, that your presence may lead us through our years, and bring us at last with them into the joy of your home, not made with hands but eternal in the heavens; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON - Isaiah 40:28-31

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures: he leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul: he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON - Romans 8:35, 37-39