



We hope your memories of our Mother will inspire you to act with courage, generosity, and love.

Seattle First Baptist Church
Celebrates the Life of



Roxana M. Harper

Saturday, October 8, 2022 9:30 am in the Sanctuary

Rev. Anita Peebles and Rev. Tim Phillips, *officiating*

Obituary

A Letter from the Harper Family

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you so very much for being here today to honor and celebrate Roxana's life.

It has been a long journey to get here today since the time of her passing. A lot has transpired over the last several years, including the pandemic, the shut down, businesses closing, etc.... It has been a difficult time, but, thank God he's brought us through it.

We thank you all for your love and support to our family over the last few years and we are very grateful that you are here today to celebrate her life with us.

Mom and Dad were long-term participants and activists in the legislative and judicial programs at SFBC, such as Black Lives Matter Alliance of Washington and the Faith Action Network.

Should you wish, donations in Roxana's name can be made to Seattle First Baptist Church for the church's ongoing support of these programs.

On behalf of the Harper family, thank you -from the bottom of our hearts- for your years of friendship and love. Roxana cherished each and every one of you.

We hope your memories of her will inspire you to act with courage, generosity, and love.

With Gratitude,

The Harper Family



Roxana Markham Harper

Sunrise: May 11, 1935 – Sunset: October 28, 2020

Roxana Harper peacefully completed her life on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at her residence. Her three children were with her at home.

Roxana was born in 1935 to Wilbur and Corinne (Milne) Markham in Connecticut, and was a graduate of Syracuse University. She was happily married to Gordon, her husband of 56 years. Roxana and Gordon were members of the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA) for over 40 years, working with a grassroots approach to empower communities to achieve their goals. They lived in multiple cities in the States, as well as in villages and cities in India, Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan. After she and Gordon moved to Seattle in 1996, Roxana worked for Plymouth Congregational Church for several years.

Roxana loved to attend the theatre, read a good mystery novel, and travel to new places. She greatly enjoyed the camaraderie of the Group Health Cooperative Enhance Fitness Class, OWLs, and the ICA "Lunch Bunch." As a long-time member of Seattle First Baptist Church, Roxana loved the fellowship and community in worship. Both she and Gordon were staunch civil rights supporters who acted on their beliefs that with love and understanding the world can be a better place.

Roxana is preceded in death by her parents and husband. She is survived by her brother: William Markham (Beverly - Lincoln, NE), nephew David (Gilbert, AZ), niece Sara Friest (Jacob - Lincoln, NE), four grandnephews & -nieces: Ethan, Oliver, Lyla, August; her three children: Geoffrey (Kayla-Rogers, MN), Stuart (Christine-Danville, KY), and Elena (Seattle, WA), as well as eight grandchildren: Brittany, Reuben, Benjamin, Tania, Gabriel, Alexander, Lily, and Simon.

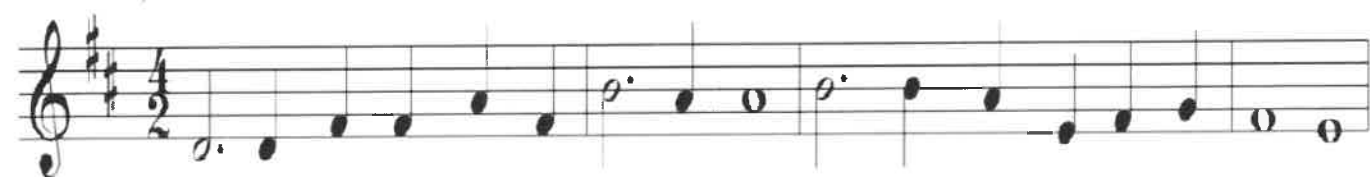
We are humbled by all of your prayers and expressions of sympathy. On behalf of our entire family we thank you for your warm support and your many years of friendship.

Should you wish, donations in Roxana's name can be made to Seattle First Baptist Church.

Grace and Peace be unto you.



Bring Us Home



Bring us home on love's re - new - ing tide to the place of our be - long - ing.



Bring us home to your re - deem - ing side; bring your scat - tered peo - ple home.



1. From our wea - ry night bring us to the light, to the place of our be - long - ing.
2. From our closed - in fears, from our wast - ed years, to the place of our be - long - ing;
3. From our self - ish views, learn - ings we re - fuse, to the place of our be - long - ing;



With your warm em - brace, wak - en us to grace; bring your scat - tered peo - ple home.
To our high - est call, shar - ing love with all, bring your scat - tered peo - ple home.
To the truth we are, to our ris - ing star, bring your scat - tered peo - ple home.

Words: Rodney R. Romney; Music: Peter Strauch

A Celebration of the Life of Roxana M. Harper



Order of Service

Prelude *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by J.S. Bach Jim Ginn, organ

Welcome and Opening Prayer Rev. Anita Peebles

Scripture Romans 8:35-39 (NRSV) Geoffrey Harper

Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* #451

Reading from *The Irony of American History* by Reinhold Niebuhr Elena Harper

Scripture Psalm 91 Rev. Anita Peebles

Please read responsively the bolded words.

ONE: You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord,

ALL: "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."

ONE: For God will deliver you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly pestilence;

ALL: God will cover you with Their pinions,
and under God's wings you will find refuge;
God's faithfulness is a shield and defense.

ONE: You will not fear the terror of the night
or the arrow that flies by day,
or the pestilence that stalks in darkness
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

ALL: A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.
You will only look with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.

ONE: Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,

ALL: no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

ONE: For God will command God angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

ALL: On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
You will tread on the lion and the adder;
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

ONE: God says, "Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble;
I will rescue them and honor them.

ALL: With long life I will satisfy them
and show them my salvation."

Hymn *Families Can be Together Forever*

Bill Markham

See insert

Scripture Isaiah 43:5-9 (NRSV) Stuart Harper

Musical Tribute *I am a Child of God* Bill Markham

Prayer Rev. Anita Peebles

Hymn *In the Midst of New Dimensions* #391

Scripture Revelation 21:1-5 (NRSV)

Meditation/Reflection Rev. Dr. Tim Phillips

Hymn *Bring Us Home* See next page
by Rod Romney and Peter Strauch

Benediction Rev. Anita Peebles

Postlude *Amazing Grace* Jim Ginn, organ
arrangement by George Shearing



Social Hour in Fellowship Hall

After the service please join the family downstairs for
Light Hors d'oeuvres & Refreshments

