



Helen Ruth Harden

January 10, 1927 - April 8, 2013

PLEASE ASSEMBLE IN LANE "C" AT DFW NATIONAL CEMETERY AT 9:15 AM FRIDAY FOR PROCESSION TO SERVICE SITE AT 9:30 AM

Helen Ruth Harden, CRM, FAI

Helen Ruth Harden went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on April 8, 2013 at the age of 86. She was an incredibly remarkable woman and left a legacy of joy. Helen was born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas and moved to Dallas as a young child. During those early years of her life she lived in Oak Cliff with her parents, two brothers and two sisters. Upon graduation from high school, Helen was employed at AT&T for 3 years.

Helen moved out to the "country" and became a longtime resident of Lancaster, Texas in 1947 where she began building her home one room at a time. She shared her home with her dear friend, Rose Kamper until Rose passed in 1998. Upon Rose's death her daughter, Erynn Kamper Cantwell became Helen's housemate until her death in 2010.

At the age of 23, Helen proudly enlisted in the United States Marine Corps to serve her country during the Korean Conflict and achieved the rank of Sergeant. She served in the United States Marine Corps, as an Instructor-Link Trainer, 1950-1952. Helen instructed Marine pilots in learning the flight simulator instrument panels of the planes they would be flying.

Upon returning to Lancaster, Helen was employed by the Frito Company and began what would become a very successful career in records management.

Helen would spend the next 33 years at Frito, retiring in 1986. In the early days at Frito she studied business textbooks from the Dallas Public Library to gain knowledge of corporate operations as there were no books on record management at the time. In 1956-1957, she supervised the in-house file reorganization. From 1952-1986, Helen designed, developed, implemented, and directed the corporate records management program. Wrote policy and procedure manuals for each phase: Active records, Records storage, Micrographics, Records retention schedules, and Vital records schedule. She traveled throughout the US for Frito to monitor the records retention departments at many locations.

One of Helen's proudest professional achievements was her membership in ARMA, American Records Management Association. In 1959 Helen joined the American Records Management Association as a Member-at-Large. From 1961-1964 she worked with four other Members-at-Large in the Dallas area to found the ARMA Dallas Chapter. She is credited as a co-founder of the chapter and became the First President of the Dallas Chapter, serving two terms 1964 and 1965. In 1972 she became the National President of the American Records Management Association and served as Chairman of the 1972 ARMA Annual Conference. In 1975, she was the 9th recipient of the Emmett Leahy Award and in 1976 received the Certified Records Manager designation. In 1982, Helen became the President of the Institute of Certified Record Managers. From 1986-1989, she taught a Records Management Course at Cedar Valley College in Lancaster. She also taught courses of Administrative Management and Texas City Records Management. In 2006, she was inducted into the ARMA, International Company of Fellows (FAI). She became Fellow #40. Helen was a speaker on records management at various meetings, workshops and seminars throughout the years.

In 1990-1992, Helen worked as a Land Acquisition Representative for Universal Field Services, Inc. (a right of way company) for the Super Collider project in Waxahachie. She maintained acquisition documents and cost analysis of all properties for the Super Collider project.

In 1993, at the age of 66, Helen graduated from Cedar Valley College with an Associate of Applied Science degree. Northwood University presented Helen a Citation of Merit Award in 1995 in recognition of her outstanding contributions in influencing the lives of its graduates. Helen served as a Mentor to Northwood students.

Helen was also active in the Lancaster City Government, served on many committees including the Economic Development Committee and at one time ran for the office of Mayor. She was a member of the Fresh Anointing Worship Center where she taught a weekly Bible Study class.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents and siblings.

Helen Ruth Harden, CRM, FAI will be buried at the DFW National Cemetery on Friday, April 12, 2013 at 9:30 a.m., with Military Honors. She will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved her.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:

ARMA International Educational Foundation at <http://www.armaedfoundation.org/memorial.html> or mail to: ARMA International Educational Foundation, 1609 Terrie Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Friends are invited to a reception following the funeral service at the Holiday Inn Express, 1035 E. Hwy 67, Duncanville, TX 75137. Please come to celebrate Helen's life.

Cemetery Details

Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery

2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 12. 9:30 AM (CT)

Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery
2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX

Tribute Wall

KH

“ *Helen ruth was my aunt, by marriage, I just found this and I am sadden. she was truly a wonderful person. I went through a lot over the last 5 years. divorce, moving etc. and had no idea. wished I had kept in touch.*

Kathryn Henley - August 12, 2014 at 09:16 AM

TA

“ *I met Helen when I first started attending ARMA conferences, and she was a wonderful mentor to me and other people working in the records and information management profession. She was a true friend.*

Tony Adams - May 01, 2013 at 10:47 PM

JO

“ *What an amazing professional. Condolences to the family.*

Josh - April 30, 2013 at 09:21 PM

PD

“ *I am going to miss Mother Harden she was such a great person the best Bible study teacher that a scholar could ask for I pray for half the knowledge that she had in the word. Such a blessing to the FAWC Family we loved her but God loved her more RIP in peace Mother.*

Pammy R. DeLoach - April 12, 2013 at 04:50 PM

RB

“ Certainly will be missed. One of the pioneers in the Records Management field and a great supporter and worker for ICRM. Met her in the late 70's when CRM began, and have followed her efforts along the way. God bless

Robert Bailey

Robert Bailey - April 11, 2013 at 10:16 AM

SB

“ She was always "cool" and her home was, too--with acreage and interesting books and things scattered here and there. A treasure trove.. Helen was interested in me, and all the kids, when I was a child. Through the years, she always wanted to be brought up-to-date about me and my family. A giving, caring aunt.

It's wonderful to read of her Bible teaching here. My daddy, Clyde Harden, one of Helen's older brothers, also taught Bible all of his adult life. He was a true student of the Word. He and Helen were very much alike in the family in their giftedness, clear-thinking minds, gentle presence, and humility.

Now all of us will need to become a little more like Helen, for the world needs her gifts.

Susan Harden Borwick - April 10, 2013 at 09:22 PM

DH

“ I feel a huge void now that Mother Harden has gone to be with the Lord. We formed a special bond that I will treasure FOREVER. I referred to her as my "God Mother" and she was that to me in every sense of the word.....A Motherly figure granted to me by God. We would always chuckle at the "contemplative looks" we would get when I would introduce her as my "Mother". She loved it. God gave me a Precious GIFT when he placed her in my path. I will truly miss our Wed night "After Bible Study Teas" and our Sunday lunches. She felt that she was finally doing what God had instructed her to do when she began teaching Bible Study. It gave her so much Joy and a feeling of fulfillment because she KNEW she was Blessing the lives of all of us at Fresh Anointing Worship Center by her obedience to God's guidance and instructions. I loved her so much and will miss her dearly.

D'Juana Hawkins



D'Juana Hawkins - April 10, 2013 at 04:21 PM

DH

D'Juana and Mother Helen R. Harden

D'Juana Hawkins - April 10, 2013 at 05:03 PM

SB

A beautiful picture of a warm friendship.

Susan Harden Borwick - April 10, 2013 at 09:14 PM

PD

“Helen Ruth Harden was a faithful member of Fresh Anointing Worship Center and was affectionally called "Mother" Harden. She taught the Wednesday night Bible Class under the anointing of the Holy and Ghost. We will miss her dearly!

Be encourage family for we know that "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord".

*Pastors Carolyn and Roy DeLoach
Fresh Anointing Worship Center
Lancaster, Texas 75134*

Pastor Carolyn DeLoach - April 10, 2013 at 09:21 AM

LD

Helen and her friend Rose were a part of our worship group for many years. I have missed her in recent years. She has now joined Rose and my husband Tom and our friend Ann Waits in heaven. What a reunion they are having catching up.

Laura Dooley - April 15, 2013 at 12:09 PM