



Marjorie L. Lay

November 12, 1932 - March 15, 2011

Marjorie L. Lay (78 yrs) departed on March 15th, 2011. She was born November 12th, 1932 in Eastland County, Texas to Samuel H C Lay and Mary Jane Wilson Lay. She is preceded in death by her parents and her sister Charlotte Dendy. Marjorie is survived by her sister Jimmye Lay Perigo of Lancaster, TX; Nieces Cindy Davis of Oak Leaf, TX and Pat Perigo of Phoenix, AZ; Nephew Kirby Dendy and wife Donna of China Spring, TX; Great Nephew Adam Davis and wife Clydia, daughter Eelaina and sons Markkus and Justin of Fredericksburg, TX; Great Niece Andrea Dendy De Le Cruz and husband Simon of Aledo, TX; and Great Nephew Samuel Travis Dendy and wife Amy and son Kayden of Granbury, TX.

Dr. Ruth Jackson, Orthopedic Surgeon, was the inspiration for Marj's devotion for medicine. Dr. Jackson operated on Marj (age 14) at Baylor Hospital Dallas performing an innovative surgery that allowed Marj the ability to walk for 60 additional years. Marj graduated from Dublin High School in 1950. She told everyone that her best teacher was her mom Mary Jane Lay. Miss Johnnie Mae Bickers was her 1st grade teacher. She loved her and school so much that when the year ended Marj begged her not to take a break that she wanted to keep learning. Miss Johnnie Mae explained that after the break she would have a new teacher that would take her even further than she could. That teacher was Miss Ruby Wyatt and she and Marj became bosom buddies after a school yard incident. During recess Jimmye Dean had lifted Marj up on to a spinning swing and left her there when the bell rang to return to class.

Miss Wyatt sent a student to find Marj and they reported back to Miss Wyatt that she would have to come get her. Miss Wyatt assessed the situation asking how she got up there and realizing that she couldn't get down by herself rectified the situation, flipped the back of her skirt on the way back to class and a forever friendship was born.

Marj graduated from Tarleton University and Baylor Med Tech School. She worked for Hill Blood Bank on weekends and UT M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute Houston (1958) in the research Lab on mice. She furthered her education at The University of Texas while working at Breckenridge Hospital. Marj then moved to Salt Lake City to further her career at Wintrobe Hematology Lab. She researched the effects of atomic bomb fallout tests on young children and the elderly under Dr. Maxwell Wintrobe. She made her way back to Texas to work for Dallas Parkland Cytology where she became a registered Cytologist (recognition of cancer cells). Finally she joined Saint Paul Hospital as the Supervisor of Hematology from where she eventually retired 32 years later. Marj had a great love and respect for the Sisters of Saint Paul Hospital, all the staff and physicians that she had the privilege to work with.

The family wants to especially thank Kaleena Jacobs and Marco Pataray for their kindness, excellent care, and the dignity that they showed Marj and her family. We would also like to thank Dr. Hugh McClung, Dr. Kenneth Walgren, Dr. Edwin Jenevein, and Dr. Payseur who not only cared for her over the years but were considered part of her extended family. Thomas Selman, we will never be able to express our gratitude for your encouragement, kindness, and loving care. Please leave us your Marj stories in the guestbook.

In memory of Marj, if you care to give she supported Texas Scottish Rite Hospital 2222 Welborn Street, Dallas, Texas 75219. (214) 559-5000 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Email: donors@stjude.org; 501 St Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. (800) 822-6344.

Tribute Wall



“ PLEASE ACCEPT OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE LOSS OF A PRECIOUS FRIEND, EVEN THO IT IS BELATED DUE TO A DELAY OF COMMJUNICATION. WE REMEMBER MARJ WITH LOVE. ATLANTA, TX. (GINA'S PARENTS)Oo##imported-begin##JOYCE & LARRY RHYNE##imported-end##

November 10, 2011 at 12:25 PM



“ Jim, I just discovered that Marj has transitioned from this life. I LOVED MARJ! She DEFINITELY kept me going at St. Paul. A Wonderful friend, too. What a GAL! :D My thoughts are with you and I pray for the repose of her soul. I will miss her NO-NONSENSE way-of-being in the world. AUTHENTIC? YES!!!
Grace & Peace,
Freda Marie+##imported-begin##The Rev. Freda Marie Brown##imported-end##

May 01, 2011 at 07:40 PM



“ On Mar. 15, 2011, God called home one of his angels and a friend in Marj. The past five years that we were neighbors was probably the nicest experience that I have ever had in an apt. complex and Marj was the reason for this. She was not only a neighbor but she was my friend and she touched my life forever. I love you Marj-I hope that you know just how much of an impact you had on me and I am so thankful that God put you in my life. God Bless the family-you guys are always gonna be in my thoughts and prayers and I am only a phone call away. Bless your heart Marj(her favorite saying)and remember that you will NEVER be forgotten!!! I miss you my friend!!!##imported-begin##Thomas Selmon##imported-end##

April 01, 2011 at 07:01 AM



“ Christmas 2009 was fast approaching and I still hadn't figured out what I could get Marj that she would like and enjoy. I tried everything to get her to tell me what she liked but she just wouldn't give me enough information to use so that I could get her something for Christmas. Finally one day, we were talking about our days in college and she let me know that she was a University of Texas alum and that was all I needed to know. I bought her a UT snuggie and wrapped it up and took it down to her on Christmas day and I stood there and watched her open that gift with excitement in her eyes. When she saw what it was-she thanked me over and over for the snuggie and she said that it would come in handy because she was always cold. She would call me out of nowhere and thank me because she was using that snuggie practically every day-especially when it was cold outside. I saw that snuggie the other day when I was talking to her nieces and my eyes started watering because it made me think of Marj. Our friendship was like that snuggie to Marj, we cared about each other and we comforted one another when we needed it most. Thank you Marj for your love and kindness-you will always be in my heart!!! Love you!!! RIP!!!##imported-begin##Thomas Selmon##imported-end##

April 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ To Jimmye and Marge's family... Clever and witty, best pal to her sister, she will be missed. My thoughts are with you.##imported-begin##Suzanne O'Brien##imported-end##

March 27, 2011 at 08:17 PM



“*Marg was high standards. I can still hear a sentence she repeated to me many times, " This is just not right." That meant that a laboratory result did not make sense and there must have been an error. She was responsibly vigilant and demanded quality of herself, of her colleagues, of her machines, and of me. Kind but firm she would not allow deviation from her systems and methods. Her skills in identifying types of blood cells and abnormal cells were extraordinary, to the benefit of many patients.*

My association with Marge was one of the highlights of my medical career.##imported-begin##E P Jenevein, MD##imported-end##

March 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM