

What She Knew to Do

In loving kindness from His throne
God called Rosana to come Home;
Around her bed we sang and prayed
Until her soul safe passage made.

Yes, Heaven was her goal, it's true;
But while on earth her goal was you—
Her family and her many friends...
This is not where the story ends.

The seeds of love which she did sow
In others' lives will surely grow.
Her care and interest in you each—
So many lives she sought to reach.

She wanted you to know her Friend
Who helped her to her journey's end.
She served Him every way she knew
And wanted you to serve Him too.

She wanted for you joy and peace
From God, whose blessings never cease.
But all the choice was yours, she knew,
So she did all she knew to do.

Now will you choose to serve Him too?
Now will you read His Word so true?
Will you join Rosana there
Someday in that Home so fair?

Thanks to all who came today,
For kind words spoken, prayers you prayed.
God bless you each and may we meet
Again in Heaven at Jesus' feet.

—*Ruby Roth* (Mark's wife)

“She hath done what she could” (Mark 14:8).

Rosana Mae Roth



November 11, 1931 – May 5, 2017

Funeral Service
Woodburn United Methodist Church
10:30 a.m. on May 13, 2017

Welcome	<i>Jake Kropf</i>
Congregational songs	<i>Steve Headings</i>
Devotional	<i>Ron Wolfer</i>
Special singing	<i>Steve Headings</i>
Obituary	<i>Tim Teele</i> (Lois)
Congregational songs	<i>Steve Headings</i>
Message	<i>Nolan Bechtel</i>

Luncheon

Committal at Hopewell Mennonite Cemetery	<i>Jake Kropf</i>
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Pallbearers

Duane Roth (David)	Jay Roth (David)
Russell Roth (Sam)	Keith Roth (Sam)
Mark Roth (James)	Miguel Ureña (James)

“The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord” (1 Corinthians 7:34).

Rosana Mae Roth was born on November 11, 1931, in Upland, California. She was the second of the seven children of Jacob and Mary (Buckwalter) Roth. She and her older sister Lois graduated from high school in 1950 with the rest of Western Mennonite School’s first graduating class.

Never married, Rosana loved Christ and cared for the things of the Lord. She taught school in the United States for a total of nine years in three communities: Deep Creek, Virginia; Elida, Ohio; and Harrisburg, Oregon. She also served about three decades as a missionary and teacher in Mexico and Puerto Rico.

Rosana’s work in Mexico began in the summer of 1959 when she went to Mexico City under the Franconia Mennonite Conference Board of Missions and Charities. She moved back to Oregon in August 1977.

Eventually Rosana returned to a different area of Mexico where she spent years helping operate a feeding and Bible teaching program for World Vision and Compassion International. Next she served under the Missions Committee of Bible Mennonite Fellowship in the state of Zacatecas. Later she served two years under the Puerto Rico Mennonite Council as a school teacher for missionary children in Puerto Rico.

Her Oregon hometown of Woodburn gave Rosana many opportunities for service — Spanish classes, English classes, tutoring, Bible studies, visitation, Dial-a-Ride, Food Bank, Meals on Wheels, elder care, and taking elderly people places. She was given recognition more than once for her decades of volunteer work in the community. She loved to help other people. One of her shoe-leather life mottoes seemed to be, “Someone might need this!” She didn’t succeed in giving away all she bought (or got for free) for others who might need it.

Rosana knew her Bible well, having read through it often. With her death and James Smucker’s death, Hopewell Mennonite Church lost its two “star” human concordances. Many times in the course of the years, a minister or other public speaker would think of a verse fragment and not be able to cite it fully or pinpoint the reference — and James or Aunt Rosie would bail him out more often than not. It was a fascinating thing to witness.

Rosana died gently in her sleep just before 9:00 pm on May 5, 2017 — a day short of 14 weeks after the death of her brother James. Rosana was also preceded in death by her parents, Jacob and Mary, as well as three other siblings: Lois (Shetler), David, and Susan (Heatwole). Her surviving siblings are Ruth (Georgiades) and Sam.

—Mark Roth