

## *Lois' Eulogy*

I am writing this while still with you all before I go to my heavenly reward because, as there are many people who know pieces of my life, I am the only one who knows it all. (I will give you the Reader's digest condensed version.)

I was born & raised in a loving, Christian home to Evelyn & Gordon MacLeod. God was especially loving in blessing myself and my siblings with them. I had a sister, Beverly; and 2 brothers, Bobby and Ken. We have been each other's best friends and supporters through all our lives, and, through all the sibling stuff, we have loved each other with all our hearts. My brother Bobby was the first of us to be called home to heaven and will be there to welcome me. Here, I have to add another "sister", my very dear cousin, Linda. Lind-e, as I call her, and I have a very special bond and she is one of the most special people in my life. We have often thought we were twins separated at birth, we are so much alike. We have been extremely close all our lives and I'm sure we will be through eternity.

I was raised in Dorchester Temple Baptist Church where dad was a Sunday school teacher, Sunday school superintendent, deacon & choir member. We were very involved with our church and learned to love the Lord at an early age. I find in the years that have passed, and with the trials have come, I have learned to love, trust in, and lean on Him more and my faith has only become infinitely stronger.

I was blessed with a fabulous grandmother, grandfather, many aunts, uncles and cousins. Not a sour grape in the bunch! My cup overflowed with the bounty of love given to me.

I married Bob in May of 1975. He is the love of my life and of my heart. He is my partner, my "other half", and we have had a blessed life together. We have had wonderful times, had storms to weather, lots of laughter and humor, made many great memories and taken care of each other. I will love him through eternity.

I have nieces and nephews that live in my heart also. Paul & Brian Fraser, that had, much too soon, gone on to the Lord and will be there to meet me and welcome me home. I have to include Jack, Michelle's husband here as I love him as another nephew. He's a wonderful guy. I am so happy for them. My nieces, Darlene & Michelle Fraser Jolly and Amelda (Ame) Ester. How I have loved these "children"! They were as my own, for the Lord did not see to give me a child of my own. They have been a great part of my life and also of the memories I leave behind for they have been the loves of my life. We lived so close by that we were there constantly, almost every day. I so looked forward to having those Sunday afternoons; taking the kids someplace special, or just a picnic on the lawn lying on a comforter looking at clouds. It was "our" time and I had a special bond with each one.

In more recent years, I have been blessed tremendously with my 4 great nieces; Breana, Brian's daughter, Delilah, Paul's daughter, and Lauren, Ame's daughter; and Jessenia, Michelle's daughter and my 2 great nephews, my dear heart, Travis, and Anthony, Darlene's sons. Words haven't been created that describe the height, depth and width of my love for these young ones and how much joy and happiness they have brought to my life. I strive to keep living just to spend time with them, watch them grow into adulthood, and help them along the way when I can.

I've had and have many dear friends. Too numerous to mention them all but a few I must. It was Ken & Sandy Shaw and Harry & Betty Eisan that I felt an immediate bond to that kept me coming back to First Baptist Church until I joined with my mom. Ann & Mike Gallagher who are phenomenal friends (and adopted family) and a few that have pre-deceased me.

I graduated from Dorchester High School (I won't say when), went to Bryant & Stratton Jr. College of Business and took computer programming. That year I was voted "Miss Popularity" of the freshman class and it was also the year my dad (my hero) died. I went to work at the First National Bank and my fate was sealed. After a year and 1/2, I left and went to work at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston for 36 years holding various positions retiring in 2004. I took 4 years off, during which time I lost my nephews and my mom and brother. I had a quadruple bypass and recuperated well. Shortly thereafter, Bob had a heart attack and we attended rehab together. I knew God was not finished with me. I stayed home for a short while, then took a receptionist's job at the Bostonian nursing home. A job I loved.

I have also been blessed with a wonderful loving church family at The First Baptist Church in Dorchester, loving people who have seen me through many heartaches, illnesses, and also shared with me many happy times. I am thankful for them, and grateful to them for their love and support.

The Lord smiled on me the day I was born. My life has been filled with the people, and the things, and the Lord I love. Life also gives us tragedies, and I've had my share of those as well. That would be my "footprints in the sand time". I weathered them with the love of my family and friends, my faith in my God, and keeping an optimistic outlook. I know I will be with my beloveds by the time this is read. I wish you happy memories of our times together. Do not be sad; be happy and rejoice for me. I will always love you. I am home.