

FRIENDS & FAMILY

• Obituaries •

Marie Puckett



Marie Puckett passed away on January 24, at the age of 87. She was born in Portage, Wisconsin, in 1922 to Walter Collins and Helen Arneberg. She married Robert (Bud) Puckett in Coarsegold in June 1945. They retired in Mariposa in 1985.

An ardent believer in education, Marie earned her teacher's credential at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and her bachelor's degree in social science at 59." She taught school for twenty years, influencing the lives of hundreds of children, including the 1944-1945 students at Coarsegold's one-room school house.

Marie was an extraordinary woman who loved to dance, play the piano, sing, read, write, and enjoy the company of good friends and her family. She

wrote her mother's biography, a short autobiography, and co-authored a book of cowboy poetry with Bud. When the deadline for her writers' group would grow near, she'd take a few minutes and write the perfect limerick.

A three-time cancer survivor by the age of 63, Marie was an example of perseverance and courage to all who knew her.

Marie is survived by her husband, Bud Puckett, son Bill Puckett, currently in Guatemala, daughter Barbara Belknap and husband Doug of Juneau, AK; daughter Kathy Puckett of Collinsville, CN; and son, Pat Puckett and wife Deborah of the RO Ranch in Nevada; sister Kathleen Aldrich of Montello, WI, numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

The family wants to express its deepest gratitude to the staff of the Ewing Wing at J.C. Fremont Hospital for the compassionate and loving care Marie received every day for the past seven years.

The viewing will be from 2 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at the Mariposa Mortuary, and services will be held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church at 10 a.m. on Feb. 10.

Pastor's podium

CONTRIBUTED BY PASTOR HENRY FALANY

As we all can see, we are at a time in history when America and the world are in great turmoil. We have recently experienced a major collapse of the global financial system. Worldwide epidemics have been forecast by governments. Natural disasters draw our attention and compassion. The threat of attack by foreign powers that hate this country increases almost daily.

But be of good cheer. I believe that if the "Body of Christ" in California, or any other place in the earth, stirs itself up and takes its position on the wall to pray, instead of disaster we will experience the greatest move of God in history. And with it will come renewed blessing.

Second Chronicles chapter 7 verses 14 and 15 state: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place."

In other words, it is up to us. God puts blessing and revival for the land in the believer's hands. If we as the church will take this opportunity to repent and seek Him

like never before, we can bypass the hatemongers, the sinners, the politicians and even the voters, and put our region, state or nation directly into the loving hands of God. It's a promise from God.

Saints, the Church's finest hour is just ahead. As forthcoming columns will show, California - indeed, Mariposa - has a special place in God's plan of restoration for the nation and world.

I realize that, in our "see it to believe it" culture, we don't often think of places having real spiritual significance and influence.

But the God of the Bible sees its differently. And, as I will show you, He has left an abundance of clues pointing to the special role of California - in the past and future - in spreading the light of Christ. California is not a spiritual drop-out, in God's eyes. It is a leader, in the natural and spiritual. In future installments, I intend to draw back the veil that has kept us from recognizing California's once and future glory as a leader in God's Kingdom. Be encouraged. God will revive California and the nation "if my people.

This column is based on excerpts from Henry Falany's recently released book "God, Gold and Glory!" See www.MariposaRevivalCenter.com; www.godgoldandglory.com

Birth Announcement



LAI SI BERRY AND TAYLOR GUTIERREZ OF MARIPOSA HAVE ANNOUNCED THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON, JAXON WILLIAM DEAN GUTIERREZ. HE WAS BORN NOV. 3, 2009 IN MERCED. HE WEIGHED SEVEN POUNDS, EIGHT OUNCES AND WAS 20 AND ONE-HALF INCHES LONG.

HE WAS WELCOMED BY HIS MATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, HOLLI BERRY-REDDING AND TEDDY REDDING OF MARIPOSA AND PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, ROQUE GUTIERREZ AND DIANE KIMBALL OF OJAI.

HIS COUSINS ARE CHLOE LAPADULA OF MERCED, MIKEY KUSCH OF MARIPOSA, EVERETT KIMBALL OF RHONERT PARK, AND MAKAYLA AND ISABELLA REDDING-PLUNKETT OF MARIPOSA.

HIS AUNTS ARE HEIDI AND HAILI BERRY OF MERCED, LORI AND ANITA REDDING OF MARIPOSA, JACKIE CONWAY OF MARIPOSA, ASHLEY KIMBALL OF RHONERT PARK AND JENNIFER LAFFEY OF LAS VEGAS.

HIS UNCLAS ARE SHAUN WALKER AND NICHOLAS LAPADULA OF MERCED AND JASON LAFFEY OF OJAI.

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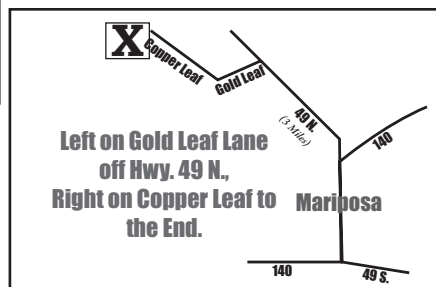
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