

# The Martin and Gracia Burnham Foundation

June 2022

In support of:    **Missionary Aviation**  
**Tribal Missions**  
**The Persecuted Church**  
**Muslim Ministries**

## Mom & Dad Moved to Heaven

In November, my mom and dad died within days of each other. Dad was 96 and Mom was 93. They had been in a nursing home for several years, sharing a little suite, and “taking care of each other.” The day of Mom’s funeral, Dad decided that his last job on earth was done (taking care of Mom) and he followed her to Heaven a week later. It was precious! Dad always told people that “I couldn’t live without Betty Jo.”

Both of my folks were such unlikely candidates for success. Dad (Norvin Jones) was born in the tiny town of Hickory Ridge, Arkansas. The story is told that my Grandma did not do well with the birth process. The baby (Dad) was set aside as he wasn’t breathing and everyone rushed to help Grandma because they thought they were losing her. Some time later, a lady went to check on Dad and said, “I think this baby is breathing!” God gave Dad breath, and Dad used that breath to glorify God.



Following Dad’s service all my kids got together for a picture.  
L to R: Gracia, Jeff, Mindy & Zach



Mom was a poor sharecropper’s daughter in Braggadocio, Missouri. Mom tells everyone, “I grew up in the cotton patch.” Their hardworking family had their share of problems. As a young girl, Mom felt drawn to a little church a few miles away. She walked down the dirt road to church, rain or shine, by herself, several times a week. For years, a faithful pastor poured truth into her, even though she was just a poor girl, and unworthy of notice.

Upon returning home after serving in WW II, Dad enrolled in Bible College where he and Mom met. They were married for 73 years. Their life together was a life of service to the Lord. Dad was an excellent Bible teacher and Mom had a heart of compassion for every single person she ever met. Those of you that know Mom are nodding your head right now, “Yes, she was so kind to everyone!”

Mom related a “near-death experience” she had a few months before she died. She knew something was very wrong with her and suddenly she found herself with Jesus.

The light was very bright and a perfect peace settled over her. She fell to her knees and began thanking Jesus for the many things He had done for her...thing after thing after thing. “What did Jesus say”? I asked. “Nothing,” Mom said. “He couldn’t get a word in edgewise!” She woke up to nurses surrounding her bed calling her name and patting her cheeks and doing heart massage. I love that story!!

*Gracia*

## And I Moved to...

# Florida!

The day after Dad's funeral, my daughter, Mindy and her family moved to Florida to work in ministry near Tampa. Since my oldest son, Jeff, lives in Orlando, I suddenly found myself without parents to care for, and 7 grandchildren in Florida, so ...

I am living in Bradenton in a little community called il Villaggio. Long ago, the founder of Tropicana orange juice built a beautiful haven where folks who served in full time Christian work can retire. They are allowing me to live here even though I am still working with and speaking on behalf of Ethnos360. I plan to cut back on travel and spend more time with those grandchildren of mine. Speaking of grandchildren, my youngest son, Zach and his wife are expecting my 8<sup>th</sup> grandchild next month in Kansas City. I've learned that there are plenty of flights to KC from Florida!



Team Gracia! How I love these ladies.  
Great is your reward!

**You can still reach me at P.O. Box 10, Rose Hill  
KS 67133. My "team" will continue with  
foundation tasks and my speaking schedule  
from Kansas.**



**Dwight and Diana Brown  
— amazing friends — came all the  
way from Arizona to move me  
1200 miles**

## Are you ready for some good news?



Over 50 years ago, Paul and Oreta Burnham left for ministry in the Philippines. God used some "ordinary Kansas folk" to bring the Good News to an entire people group. God amazingly changed these people and there's a thriving church now.

Several copies of the **Entire Ibaloi Bible** have just been printed and the translators are "checking it one more time" before the final printing begins. We are ecstatic!

**YOU** have made this possible. I never could have done something like

this. You gave to The Martin and Gracia Burnham Foundation so we could support an awesome translation team of Ibaloi believers (some are Martin's childhood friends) with finances for computers, salaries, office space - all those things necessary for a project of this magnitude.

Of course, just as the Burnhams didn't reach the Ibaloi singlehandedly (other Americans, Canadians, Kiwis, Filipinos, etc. have worked there for years) neither has our foundation done this alone! People from all over the world have given and prayed and are part of the team.

This precious Ibaloi Bible is an indescribable gift and we are so thankful at what God's mighty hand has done! Keep praying!



### To Give to the Foundation

Use the enclosed envelope

Or online:

<https://graciaburnham.org/give>

### To Give to Gracia's Personal Ministry

Please make checks payable to: Ethnos360

312 W First St, Sanford FL 32771

Do not include her name on the check but use a separate piece of paper indicating: "For the ministry of Gracia Burnham"