



## Willie Maxine Lee

December 25, 1924 - April 28, 2014

Willie Maxine Brown Lee, 89, passed peacefully into the presence of God on April 28, 2014. She was born in Redlands, California, on December 25, 1924, to Nannie Mae Self and James Archie Brown. The oldest of four children, she learned early to care for others and lead with wisdom and kindness. She attended George Washington High School in Los Angeles, distinguishing herself as salutatorian. She was honored as an outstanding citizen and student by selection to the prestigious Ephebian Society of Los Angeles. She attended business school in LA and participated in many musical theater productions in the region. In 1945 she married Lawrence (Larry) Lee, and together they made the decision to live and raise their family in Arizona, living in Flagstaff for nine years, and then moving to Window Rock, on the Navajo Indian Reservation, where Larry taught high school and Willie taught piano lessons, Bible studies, and hosted a radio show. She and Larry moved to Prescott in 1972 and enjoyed the remainder of their 61 years of marriage exploring the state they loved, ministering in the church they loved, and enjoying each other fully. Theirs was a storybook marriage. Together they raised three daughters and pursued a life of faith and service.

Willie was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Larry, and her brother James Brown. She is survived by sister Claudia Pierson and brother Claude Ray Brown; also survived by her daughters Susan (Randy) Powell, Jan (Ken) Winebrenner, Paula (John) Mahon; grandchildren Kimberly Beck, Erin Pietsch, John Mahon, Mike Mahon, Matt Winebrenner and Molly Ansley; sixteen great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to say thank you for the kind and gentle care extended by the Willow Wind Staff and Hospice Family Care.

A memorial celebration of Willie's life will be held May 28, 2014, at 2 pm, at Prescott First Baptist Church.

Donations in her memory may be made to: International Teams in support of the ministry of Michelle Crofts in Honduras.

International Teams

411 W. River Road

Elgin, IL 60123

Or on-line at: [www.iteams.org/us/give](http://www.iteams.org/us/give) or to the charity of your choice.



# Comments

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“ Thank you for taking me in your home back in 1982 when my adopted family slipped into tragic darkness. I am sorry I had not been able to stay in contact with you and Larry though the years since then, as my journey took me through some uncharted lessons to overcome. I look forward to seeing you and Larry in Heaven one day... All my love, Llsa Young

**Lisa Young** - July 28, 2017 at 05:45 AM

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“ When I think of Willie Lee I think of the epitome of a Christian woman, wife, Mom, Bible teacher and most of all an outstanding example of how to live the Christian life. She was a mentor whose light was always shining. I was so sorry to miss her services due to illness, but she will never be forgotten. She was always gracious and kind and Russ and I enjoyed her at our senior meals and I as a Bible study student. Joanne Sandlin

**Joanne Sandlin** - May 30, 2014 at 02:13 PM

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“ I had the privilege to take care of Willie while she was at Willow Wind. She had many friends at the facility and we all miss her, but will remember her fondly. My prayers for the family.

Cindy

**Cindy Klotz** - May 27, 2014 at 05:19 PM

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“ I have fond memories of Willie as my high school Sunday School teacher many, many years ago at First Baptist Church. She was a caring teacher that showed love to us girls every week. And I know she continued to pray for us after we graduated and went on with our lives. Diane Hanson Thielen

**Diane Hanson Thielen** - May 26, 2014 at 10:53 PM

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“ Lisa Anderson lit a candle in memory of Willie Maxine Lee



Lisa Anderson - May 12, 2014 at 12:50 PM



“ She was an amazing lady. Praying for her whole family's comfort today.

Lisa - May 12, 2014 at 12:51 PM

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“ Willie has been a wonderful friend for many years. I always knew that she was a prayer warrior but in these past 4 years since Dan's death followed by my mother's death 4 months later, I have been the recipient of those prayers and I can't express how much she meant to me. She was such an encourager as she helped me walk through the valley and with the Lord, come out the other side. She was such a gracious lady and through all the changes in her life over the past year and a half, she never complained, always worried that she not 'be a burden' to Susan and Randy and had cheerful Spirit in the Lord. If I could be half as positive about life as she was, I would be happy. The past 4-5 years I have had the pleasure of taking her to Susan's piano students recital. It will be sad to go tonight without her but to know she is pain-free and walking in Heaven with Larry will make it a little easier!! She has a place in my heart right next to my mom and will be missed.

Lee Howard - May 12, 2014 at 10:21 AM

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“ I am so thankful that I had the opportunity to do a Bible study with Miss Willie, at WOW at American Lutheran Church last year. Mrs. Lee was an inspiration and shared her deep faith and sweet spirit during this special time. All who knew her felt blessed by her gentle ways. Susan, I am so very sorry for your loss and am saddened by this news. Prayers for peace and comfort to you and your family. With love, Sheila Adams

Sheila Adams - May 11, 2014 at 04:37 AM

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“ I knew this precious saint for over 30 years as she and my mom were friends and co-teachers of The Bible for many years. She will be missed, but her homecoming must have been spectacular. I will meet up with her on the other side, along with my dad and the rest of their longtime friends, Bruce, Syl, Jim, Bob, and so many others. God bless you Willie for a lifetime of faithful service.

**kathy** - May 10, 2014 at 10:52 PM

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“ I first met Willie, Larry and Paula as they were bedded down in my living room not long after I married her brother. She then and always after was a cheerful and delightful addition to my life. I will miss our long talks as we "solved the problems of the world"

**Pat Brown** - May 09, 2014 at 08:12 PM

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“ This sweet lady taught my mother how to drive a car. She also told my mother about her need for salvation...after my mom accepted Jesus Christ as her savior, she taught my mom how to study her Bible...I remember my mother reading her Bible everyday...I am positive these precious women are sitting next to each other in heaven today.

**Charlotte Dickison** - May 09, 2014 at 07:46 PM