

Through Liz's relationship with Bruce, she came to know and be a part of The Salvation Army at Scarborough and deeply embraced their message of hope and salvation for those in need. She could always be counted on to work the kettles at Christmas, to decorate the sanctuary, or lead the Songsters.

Throughout her life Liz always exuded a positive attitude and lived life to the fullest. She was small in stature, but large in spirit. Although her life was short, she made the most of the 58 years that she was given. She will be deeply missed by her parents Audrey and Murray Nelson, loving husband Bruce, and her four girls Sarah (Mike), Hannah (Alex), Emma and Tory, as well as many extended family and friends. Liz always believed that her life was in God's hands and we can take comfort knowing that she has now been reunited with Jesus in Heaven.



Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1:9)

A Service of Celebration And Remembrance

Elizabeth Anne Walter

June 24, 1958 - March 19, 2017

Promoted to Glory



March 25, 2017
11:00 am
St. Paul's Church
227 Bloor Street East
Toronto, ON

Order of Service

Prelude Charles Gerrard

Vocal Solo Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
Dara-Lynn Gerrard

Entry of Family

Processional O Mio Babbino Caro – Puccini
Charles Gerrard

Prayer Major Elsie McNeilly (R)

Song: I'm In His Hands Major Ivan McNeilly (R)

I shall not fear though darkened
Clouds may gather round me;
The God I serve is one
Who cares and understands.
Although the storms I face would
Threaten to confound me,
Of this I am assured: I'm in His Hands.

*I'm in His hands, I'm in His hands;
Whate'er the future holds
I'm in His hands;
The days I cannot see
Have all been planned for me;
His way is best, you see -
I'm in His hands.*

What though I cannot know the
Way that lies before me,
I still can trust
And freely follow His commands;
My faith is firm
Since He it is who watches o'er me;
Of this I'm confident: I'm in His hands.

Their first year of marriage was her first big adventure when Bruce whisked his new bride off to Cape Town, South Africa. Although Liz was working at IBM and Bruce was working on his PhD, they managed to travel extensively through Africa and South America. Their adventures brought them to such diverse places as a Salvation Army mission station in Chikankata, Zambia, the pyramids in Egypt, Macchu Picchu, and camping outdoors in the Umfolozi game reserve.

Liz did get a taste of home when her parents visited them in Cape Town to celebrate their first year of marriage, a very special trip for both Liz and her parents. When their four children arrived, Bruce and Liz both agreed that they wanted their girls to see the world, and there are few continents they didn't manage to visit together. Memories from these family vacations will be treasured forever.

Among her other wonderful qualities, Liz was extremely dedicated to her family, and particularly her daughters. She had a knack for making all family occasions special and memorable, always taking care of even the smallest details. She was extremely involved in their lives both inside and outside of Havergal College, never missing a school concert or play, a soccer game or dance recital and always willing to play chauffeur to get the girls wherever they needed to go. This continued even when the family moved to Boston for three years when Liz once again had to adapt to living in a new home and a new country with four young children. From graduations to birthday parties, there was much to celebrate with her family and Liz did so wholeheartedly.

A true child of her Scarborough upbringing, Liz was equally at home in a ball gown at a black tie event or in sweatpants shopping at Walmart. She was always true to who she was, and her honesty, warmth, and kindness allowed her to connect with people from many different walks of life. She was prepared to help anybody, no matter their circumstances.

ELIZABETH ANNE WALTER

Elizabeth was born on June 24th, 1958, a wonderful gift from God to Murray and Audrey Nelson. Liz was born and raised in Scarborough in the house her parents still live in today.

Even as a child, Liz had a bright and vivacious spirit. Despite being an only child, her energy and love of life meant she was always surrounded by a wide circle of friends and family; she was always at the centre of things.

Liz showed a strong interest and aptitude in music. This began at a young age when she started playing piano. Her childhood piano teacher commented that Liz was always the best in her class, the brightest student and most gifted singer. She continued to hone her musical talents throughout her life, particularly through her collaboration with Charles Gerrard. Many friends and family can attest to countless memories of Liz sharing her beautiful voice. She never missed an opportunity to perform and enjoyed singing solos in church, at family gatherings and with her daughters.

Liz had a love of academics and a passion for teaching that led her to obtain her BA, BEd and MEd from the University of Toronto. One of the things that made her such a great teacher was her creativity and imagination. She was always willing to think outside of the box and make things fun and engaging for her students. Liz was also an extremely hard worker, and prided herself on always being top of her class. This is a trait she passed on to her daughters, and through her love and encouragement they have all gone on to achieve advanced degrees in education, dance movement therapy, law and medicine.

In 1979, Liz met her future husband Bruce while they both worked at IBM. When you know, you know, and after only a short time dating they were engaged after six months and married in 1981. Bruce has always had an urge to travel, and although she was not always the most enthusiastic traveller, Liz faced her fears about leaving home and embraced the opportunity to explore much of the world with him.

In days gone by my Lord
Has always proved sufficient,
When I have yielded to the law
Of love's demands;
Why should I doubt that He would
Evermore be present
To make His will my own?
I'm in His hands!

Scripture Psalm 139:1-4, 13-14, 17-18 Sarah Policaro

Piano Solo It Is Well With My Soul
Charles Gerrard

Family Tribute
Sarah, Hannah, Emma, Victoria

Song: His Provision Major Ron Millar

At the moment of my weakness,
When my need for power is plain,
And my own strength is exhausted once again,
Then my Lord has made provision
For the day of my despair
And His precious Holy Spirit
Hears my prayer, my prayer,
Then my Lord has made provision
For the day of my despair,
And His precious Holy Spirit hears my prayer.

*Holy Spirit! Promised presence fall on me.
Holy Spirit! Make me all I long to be.
Holy Spirit! Holy Spirit,
Give Your power to me, O Holy Spirit.*

When the darkness falls around me,
When bewildered and afraid,
When I feel the most deserted and betrayed,
Then my every need is answered

By God's providential care,
And His precious Holy Spirit
Hears my prayer, my prayer.
Then my every need is answered
By God's providential care,
And His precious Holy Spirit hears my prayer.

Nothing now can rob God's servant
Of the peace that He bequeaths,
Nothing take away the strength
His presence breathes.
Of the everlasting arms of love
I'm daily made aware,
And His precious Holy Spirit
Hears my prayer, my prayer.
Of the everlasting arms of love
I'm daily made aware,
And His precious Holy Spirit hears my prayer.

Scripture and Tribute: Psalm 23 Cheryl Walter

Vocal Trio Don't Doubt Him Now
Dara-Lynn, Alexandria and Julianna Gerrard

Message Major Ron Millar

Reflection This Day
Recorded by Elizabeth

Song: Great Is Thy Faithfulness Major Donna Millar

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Committal Service

Scriptures Major Donna Millar

Words of Committal Major Ron Millar

Recessional Somewhere Over The Rainbow
Alexandria Gerrard



Pall Bearers

Michael Armson Jacob Michie

Alexander O'Shea Keith Walter

Michael Bolton Russ Letson



The family would like to invite you to join them
for a reception at
Toronto Marriott Bloor
90 Bloor Street East