



Passing of Our Beloved Sister, Gladys Starr

Michael Balcomb
January 5, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our precious sister, Gladys Starr, passed away on December 23, 2012. She faithfully served True Parents, God's Providence and her family for many years and lived a life of great devotion and honor.

Let us support Gladys' family during this important time and pray for her victorious transition to a glorious new life in the spiritual world.

Following is her biography.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Balcomb".

Dr. Michael Balcomb
Executive Vice President

Victorious Life of Gladys Starr

Gladys Amelivia Starr was born on May 17, 1952 to her parents, Jose Felix Arzu and Zoila Rodriguez. She lived her life for God and humanity with a deep heart of love. She is a woman of great virtue, and took pride that she received the Blessing of God and True Parents as a virgin. She was always obedient to God, True Parents and her parents and joyfully lived in service to others.

Gladys moved to the United States from LaCeiba, Honduras, in 1975. She came with the desire to study English and to pursue a career as an executive secretary. She met the Unification Church in 1978 and joined immediately. She attended a 2-Day and 7-Day workshop and was inspired to join a mobile fundraising team in New York City. After a few months, she was sent to a national mobile fundraising team in Michigan. She remained on National MFT for five years.

In June of 1982, Gladys participated in the Matching Ceremony conducted by True Parents in the New Yorker Hotel in New York City. There she was introduced to her future husband, Gilbert. Father asked Gilbert to stand up and asked him what kind of a wife he would like. He replied, "Your Will be done!" Upon hearing this, Father turned around and asked all the remaining women to stand up. He looked up and down the line and then looked at Gladys who was standing in front of Him. Father raised her head up and gazed in her eyes and smiled. He then turned to Gilbert, who was directly behind him and pulled them together. Father then said with a loud voice, "Perfect Match! Matching finished!" and left the Grand Ballroom of the New Yorker Hotel.

Gladys was Blessed in marriage with Gilbert on July 1, 1982 by True Parents at Madison Square Garden in the 2,075 Couples Blessing. They have four wonderful children – Tamara, Tanya, Kevin and Jung Sun Joy Starr, named by Hyo Jin Moon. Just as Father predicted at the time of the Matching, their children are all beautiful and very special.

Gladys became a grandmother on February 11, 2011 with the birth of Jacob Felix Perry. He is the son of her daughter, Tamara, and Dan Perry and was born as a gift to Gladys when they learned of her illness. Jacob brought tremendous joy to Gladys, and to all members of the Starr and Perry families.

Gladys is survived by her husband and children as well as her father, her sisters Martha and Isabel, and many other relatives.

Seong Hwa Service

Gladys' Seong Hwa Service was held on Friday, January 4 at the R. G. Ortiz Funeral Home in Brooklyn, New York. Because she will be flown to Honduras for burial, there will not be a Won Jeon Service.