



Maria Vágó Steers

August 20, 1924 - September 28, 2020

[Click to view Livestream service]<https://www.oneroomstreaming.com/view/authorise.php?k=160142118379031>

Maria Anna Jolan Vágó Steers, age 96, born August 20, 1924 in Jászapáti, Hungary, entered into the joy of her Lord, September 28, 2020 Loganville, Georgia. The unthinkable began to happen in her happy life, in the summer of 1944, when the bombs falling on Budapest brought the realization to her family that the war had come to their homeland. She fled from the advancing Nazis with her mother to Munich, Germany. After experiencing many bombing raids, they rejoiced that the Americans, soldiers from the other side of the world, were coming to liberate their city. The U.S. military sent out orders for everyone, over 16 years old, to register for work. Because of her knowledge of English, she was assigned to work in a post-war Military Government Headquarters. Her boss was the handsome Major Philip Steers. Two years later, she became his bride. About a year and a half later, Maria proudly became a United States Citizen. Her life's journey took her from war torn Europe, to the Canal Zone in Panama. She and her husband served in the Curundu Protestant Church, a humble Quonset hut, where she taught children's Sunday school and Vacation Bible school. She also taught ladies Bible studies and loved praying with her friends. Together with her husband, they were a part of the Gideons International, distributing scriptures to hotels and school children in Panama. She loved spending time with her family, whether here in the states, or in Hungary, Argentina, and Germany. She has been the family's prayer warrior, praying for each one by name that God "will pour His Spirit upon her offspring, and His blessing on her descendants" (personalized from Isaiah 44:3). Her greatest joy will be to meet all her family someday, in heaven. Her most important citizenship is now, in heaven, where she is beholding her Savior, Jesus Christ.

Maria Steers was the wife of Philip Steers, Jr., former comptroller of the Panama Canal Company. She will be missed by her four children, Philip Steers, III (Bonnie) of St, Petersburg, FL, Yolan (Jeff) Payne of Loganville, GA, David Steers [deceased] (Leann) Of New Castle, IN, and Marion (Jeff) Jones of Lilburn, GA; her 15 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren, and her many nieces and nephews in Argentina, Germany and Hungary.

The funeral service to honor and celebrate her life will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 3:00 PM at Tom M. Wages Snellville Chapel. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 2:00 PM until 3:00 PM at the funeral home. Interment will be held on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 11:00 AM at Georgia National Cemetery, Canton, GA. You can view the funeral service, which will be livestreamed, either by going to the Tom M. Wages Facebook page or by clicking the blue link, on the obituary page, on our website.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Gideons International, an association in which she and her husband served for many years, telling people about Jesus, through the giving out of Bibles. www.gideons.org/donate.

Due to the current COVID-19 regulations, our staff is committed to taking care of our guests and families that we serve. Please understand that we will be limiting the amount of people at our chapel for visitations and services. We also ask all guests and family members attending visitations and services to please bring and wear a mask.

Condolences may be sent or viewed at www.wagesfuneralhome.com. Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, A Family Company, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Events

OCT **Visitation** 02:00PM - 03:00PM

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Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

OCT **Funeral Service** 03:00PM

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Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

OCT **Interment** 11:00AM

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Georgia National Cemetery
1080 Veteran Cemetery Rd, Canton, GA, US, 30114

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - October 03 at 12:20 PM



“ Marion, Yolan, and Philipp - Your mother's passing leaves a true hole in my heart as she was such a mentor to me for the 40 years since I came to know her and your dad in College Station in 1980. Their encouragement in God's Word, powerful prayers, and friendship. Our common love for Jesus and for Hungary brought us together both in her homeland and in translations projects for biblical materials. But all the way through these 40 years her passionate and profound prayers for both my own walk with God and my ministry were something that I have drawn great comfort and courage from over the the years, and I often think about how much I personally appreciate her ministry of prayer. I do feel such a loss now in this . . .and yet just imagining the joy of her reunion with her beloved Savior gives me deep joy. I know how very deeply she loved you all and spoke of you often with joy and gratitude, so I can't imagine how you will miss her. I am so sorry for your loss this side of heaven. Her impact on the lives of many, including me, is inspirational. I am praying now for your comfort and the continued legacy of your very special family. With love, respect, and gratitude - Wendy Wilson

Wendy Wilson - October 07 at 04:04 PM



“ Thank you, Wendy, for your comments. I heard your name many times when she was praying. Yes, we will miss her, but wouldn't ask her back from experiencing the joys of heaven. Yolan

Yolan Payne - October 09 at 09:44 AM



“ Dear Philip, Yolan and Marion, family and friends,

I am nephew Alex Vago and much of what I will write will echo what my brother Jenci, sister Tusi and cousins feel as well.

We met our Aunt Marcsi (pronounced Marchi – little Mary in Hungarian) for the 1st time sometime in May of 1954 (I believe).

I was 6 years old and at that age it was difficult to understand the relationships and why the same family would speak Hungarian, German and French ... and the same person would have different names Like Tante Marcsi, Marcsi Neni ... All too complicated!

But one thing simple to understand: this Aunt Marcsi was very nice and brought us cool gifts! Plastic transparent guns which we could fill with water and squirt it all over, Bazooka bubble gum sticks, and the coolest jeans with shiny silver tacks along the leg seems!

Well, our fun with the guns did not last too long as our neighbors' moms did not appreciate us squirting their children in winter weather!

But the bubble gum was a different story. There was no TV in those years and we never saw nor heard about bubble gum. So, we were the envy of the neighborhood going around making bubbles.

We had only one stick about 5 in long each and it had to last as long as possible. So, I do not know whose idea it was, but after chewing one small little piece all day, we would save it for the following day in a glass of sugary water.

Soon it became too boring for us to be the only ones doing the bubbles and our neighbor kids started to feel some resentment.

That's when the bright idea of sharing took hold of us and we could then have competitions to see who could burst the biggest bubble.

Well, the sharing was good, but the competition was not necessarily fair because while the other kids were using our old gum pieces from the day before, we were starting new ones!

It was A. Marcsi's coming to visit us in Buenos Aires that opened up opportunities for our mom to talk with her about spiritual matters, and meet a missionary (Myron Voth) close friend of A. Marcsi's pastor in the Canal Zone, where they were living at the time.

Until then, our grandma a true Christian believer would take us children to church, but because the masses were in Latin it did not do anything for us.

With A. Marcsi we went to visit this missionary with the C&MA who was starting a church near where we lived and we just loved it. We could understand everything that was being sung and taught, and people were interested us kids.

At different times through different experiences we all became believers in a God who loves us, provided the way to come back to Him through Jesus Christ and keeps us connected through his Holy Spirit.

We owe A. Marcsi a great deal of gratitude for her visit and concern for our spiritual wellbeing throughout the years.

Personally, I have been blessed by her and Uncle Phil since I came to the States in 1973, with regular visits and family get togethers, as Jill and our kid felt being adopted as their own. In a way both, A. Marcsi and U. Phil became to us the other

set of grandparents our children could look up to.

I recall Uncle Phil telling our children during one their visits: "You know kids? When you have Jesus in your heart you are never alone! Remember that."

It was a very simple statement, but very true.

There are times like now, with the departure of one of our loved ones that we may feel left behind and alone. But Jesus is still with us.



Alex Vago - October 03 at 01:27 PM



“ Thank you, Alex, for sharing these wonderful memories. I will never enjoy a piece of bubble gum the same way again! Love Yolán

Yolan Payne - October 09 at 09:46 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Alex Vago - October 03 at 01:25 PM



“ 73 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - October 03 at 12:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Maria Vágó Steers.



October 03 at 12:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Philip Steers - October 01 at 01:34 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Philip Steers - October 01 at 01:28 PM



“ Dan and Jane Bostwick purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Maria Vágó Steers.



Dan and Jane Bostwick - October 01 at 12:39 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Maria Vágó Steers.



October 01 at 09:49 AM