

**A WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION
FLORENCE HAZELTINE EDHEGARD LYRENE
MAY 28, 1925 – JUNE 8, 2023**

**Silverhill Cemetery
Silverhill, Alabama
June 19, 2023**

Welcome

We welcome each of you here today.

**We are gathered here today to celebrate the life, the memories, and the contributions of
Florence Hazeltine Edhegard Lyrene, affectionately known as “Tina”.**

We are thankful for this loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend.

She will surely be missed by so many.

We are thankful for a life well-lived.

Call to Worship

Prayer

Psalm 23

I Corinthians 13

Eulogy

Florence Hazeltine Edhegard Lyrene, our beloved “Tina”

Born: May 28, 1925, in Manistee, Michigan

Died: June 8, 2023, in Madison, Alabama – 98 years of life

**The Good Book tells us that “the days of our lives are three score and ten years,
and if by reason of stength, four score”.**

Tina lived four score and 18 years. We are thankful for all of her years.

Preceded in death by:

her parents – Nils Sixten and Grace Miller Edhegard.

her husband – George Lyrene, Sr. of 58 years

her brothers – Conway Edhegard and Paul Edhegard

her sisters and brothers-in-law:

- Esther Grace Smith and her husband Simeon

- Agnes Lyrene and her husband Eddie

- Ruth Owen and her husband Jim

- Edie Neal and her husband Pete
- Margaret Stephens and her husband Shelton

Survived by her three sons:

George and his wife Dianne Lyrene
 Paul and his wife Irma Lyrene
 Steve and his wife Barbara Lyrene

- 4 grandchildren - Sonja, Karen, Peter, and Emily
- 8 great-grandchildren
- her sister-in-law - Dorothy Edhegard
- many nieces, nephews, and friends

I. Tina was born in Michigan.

1. But at the age of one the family moved to Silverhill, Alabama
2. There was word that Baldwin County, Alabama, was a place to go farm.
3. It became a place where many Swedish people settled.
4. After they moved three more children were born and they were a family of eight.
5. Tina was the 5th of 8 children and those were a lot of mouths to feed.

The Great Depression fell upon them and the rest of the nation.

6. The family made it through those tough times.
7. But like so many, it taught Tina to be frugal and to have a heart for those in need.
8. Growing up in a large family taught Tina to share and to care for family and neighbors.
9. Her mother had a great influence upon her life, and she learned to lead by example.

II. At some point, her parents started a General Feed Store.

1. They would buy from the local farmers and sell items to the community.
2. Tina and her sisters worked in the store and learned to deal with whomever came in.
3. There were Swedes and Czechs who came in who did not speak English.
4. Tina learned the community and how to deal with people.
5. She went through the Silverhill schools and did well.
6. She graduated from Robertsdale High School in 1943.

III. Silverhill was a small community and everyone knew everyone.

1. The boys knew the girls and the girls knew the boys.
2. With six girls in the family, the Lyrene boys knew about the Edhegard girls.
3. George Lyrene took a liking to Tina Edhegard.
4. Even though he was older, she took a liking to George.
5. And in George Lyrene, Tina found her true love, the love of her life.

6. On August 25, 1943, Tina and George married in Fairhope, AL.
7. Tina and George built a house on the original 60 acres, two miles west of Silverhill, that George's father had purchased for \$5.00 an acre in 1902.
 - He alienated the house with the North Star. The North Star gives guidance & stability.
 - WWII was still going on and they had to have "black-outs" to avoid any enemy.
8. There they made a life and raised a family.
9. The story is told that not long after they were married that they went shopping in Robertsedale.
10. At some point, they went to different stores.
11. When George finished shopping, he went home without Tina.
12. He had been a bachelor so long that he forgot he had a wife to take home.

IV. Then along came the boys – George, Paul, and Steve.

1. Tina loved being a mother and raising her sons.
2. She love reading and would read to them and take them to the library on Saturdays.
3. Influenced by his "risk-taker" brother Eddie, who married Tina's sister Agnes, George took over the chicken hatchery that they had started.
4. The incubator had to keep the eggs and baby chicks warm.
5. But the electricity was not always reliable.
 - If it went out they had to get the generator started.
7. The hatchery became very successful and thousands of chicks and eggs were sold.
8. With the addition of more land, the farm became known as The Perone Creek Farm.

V. Tina loved the farm. It provided summer jobs for youth

1. George ran the hatchery and the farm. and a swimming hole.
2. She loved helping out with the hatchery and the calves.
3. Tina also loved flowers, birds, and music.
4. She loved nurturing and growing plants.
5. She loved animals and would help them any way that she could.
6. She would cook for those who worked on the farm.
7. Tina stayed close to Silverhill while some of her sisters went different places.
8. Family was very important to Tina and she would keep in touch with them.

VI. Education was important to Tina and George

1. George had almost finished at the University of Alabama when he left due to illness.
2. They encouraged their sons to be good students and they were.
3. Tina was a good student.
4. Just before she passed, Tina was reciting poetry that she had memorized in grammar school.
5. She loved the people of Silverhill and kept up with friends and neighbors.

6. She was a good listener with a sharp mind, and people would seek her counsel.
6. She was active in PTA, and the Silverhill Library, and even served as a poll worker.
7. Tina was one of the people who made Silverhill "A Good Place to Live".

VII. Tina also loved music.

1. She loved to play the piano and to sing.
2. I heard that George even got the nick-name "Fish" because she sang to him about "Altuna Fish".
3. She encouraged her sons to play musical instruments and they did.
4. George played the trumpet; Paul the violin; and Steve the piano.

VIII. Tina grew up in a Christian home and the church was the center of her life and faith.

1. She was active in the Silverhill Covenant Church for most of her life.
2. She taught Sunday School for many years and served in various ways.
3. For many years, she played the piano in church and Mrs. Forsman played the organ.
4. When Mrs. Forsman played the piano, Tina sang in the choir.
5. Tina would participate wherever God could use her. She was an example for us all.

IX. Then on March 23, 2002, Tina lost her beloved George.

1. She had lost the love of her life. 58 years of marriage and love.
58 years of love and devotion to each other and their family.
2. She was able to make the transition to living alone and stayed on the farm.
3. Tina stayed active with family and the church, her flowers and her chickens.
4. Her Sunday afternoon Scrabble games with family became a hit.
5. Scrabble was a family game as she had played it with her mother.
6. These Scrabble games were even a hit when she moved into Silverhill and lived close to her sister Margaret.
7. If someone got some good letters worth a lot of points, she would say, "You're supposed to let the old people win."

X. Then in December of 2017, she fell.

1. To ensure her safety, the family moved her to Madison, AL, to be closer to family
In January of 2018.
2. George and Dianne helped her as she made the transition to an assisted living facility.
3. They and Paul and Steve checked on her regularly.
4. And like the rest of us, she made it through the Covid-19 Pandemic.
5. Every day, she would fix her breakfast of oatmeal and take care of herself.
5. Every day she would watch Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune, and the news.
6. Every day she would read poetry, devotionals, and Portals of Prayer.

7. It was only in the last few months that she could not take care of herself and George and Dianne took her to their home.

8. On May 28th, Tina celebrated her 98th birthday. 98 years of love and service.

9. She was energized that day and had a sharpness and clarity.

10. it was a special day, and it was her "last best day".

11. Then on June 8th, Tina let go of this world, took the hand of the Lord, and slipped into the eternal.

12. She quietly let go of the bonds of this life and took the hand of the Lord as she crossed over the River Jordan into the eternal.

13. She was the last of her siblings, and the torch is passed to the next generation.

XI. Tina was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend.

2. She was a very good person, a good friend.

3. She was a person who loved her family, and she loved the Lord.

4. We are very thankful that God blessed her with 98 years of life, and we are thankful that God has blessed us through her.

XII. Tina lived a good life.

We are saddened by her passing, but we rejoice that she is in a better place.

Where she is, there is no sadness, no sickness, no sorrow, no tears, no death.

We rejoice that our lives are richer for having known her.

We rejoice, even in the midst of sorrow, that she receives the blessings of the eternal life.

Tina knew the Lord as her Good Shepherd.

She knew the Lord was her Savior and her Redeemer.

She put her trust in the Lord and it gave her strength.

She knew the forgiveness of the Lord that comes through faith.

And Tina knew the promise of Faith that gives Everlasting Life.

While we face each other, Tina beholds the face of God.

While we see in a mirror dimly, she sees the eternal clearly.

Our lives are richer for having known Tina and for having loved her.

Now she sings and plays with the eternal chorus.

Thanks be to God for a life well lived.

XIII. Tina made a difference in life and in our lives.

1. She made a difference by living out I Corinthians 13.
2. She was patient and kind. She was not jealous or boastful.
3. She was not arrogant or rude. She did not insist upon her own way.
4. She rejoiced for what was right, not what was wrong.
4. Tina had faith; she had hope; and she had love.

But Tina knew that the greatest of these was love.

5. She knew that love made all the difference with family, friends, community, church and God.
6. She would tell us to do the same – to love one another and to love God.

XIV. We are here because we loved her. We loved her because she loved us.

1. So our hearts are sad for our loss, but we rejoice for Tina as she receives the gift of life everlasting.
2. We rejoice for Tina because the scripture tells us,
“To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.”
3. By faith, we confess that our beloved Tina is with the Lord.

XVI. As we love unconditionally with patience and kindness,

we, too, affirm that the perishable nature puts on the imperishable and the mortal nature puts on the immortal (I Corin. 15).

As we affirm our faith in God,

we believe, that as we love and serve the Lord,
that one day, we too, shall put on the imperishable and the immortal,
and receive our heavenly reward.

As we love and serve the Lord, we also are to seek his Face,

to believe his Word, and to trust his Grace for the Life Everlasting.

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

New Testament Scripture: John 14:1-4, 25-27

The Commendation (see next page)

“It Is Well with My Soul” Robbie Owen

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

Officiant: Rev. Dr. Bob Stauffacher, Chaplain, Westminster Village, Spanish Fort, AL

THE COMMENDATION

FLORENCE HAZELTINE EDHEGARD LYRENE

“I am the resurrection, and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die” John 11:25.

I invite you to hear The Commendation:

**Almighty God and Merciful Savior, into your hands we commend the
body and soul of your faithful servant**

**FLORENCE HAZELTINE EDHEGARD LYRENE,
in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

We humbly beseech you to acknowledge TINA as

a Lamb of your Flock, a Sheep of your Fold,

a Daughter of your Redemption, a Servant of the Lord,

a Child of God, and now, a New Creation.

**As you have guided her safely across the River Jordan into the light of
your eternal love and peace, receive TINA into your arms of
mercy and grace, into the blessed rest and peace of the life everlasting,
eternal in the heavens.**

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Christ our Lord.

Amen.