

Elizabeth Lowry Brache

August 12, 1922 – November 21, 2013

Elizabeth “Blitz” Bacon Lowry Brache was born in Moorestown, New Jersey, on August 2, 1922, to Grace Scattergood Bacon and Alfred Lowry.

Bliz, as she was affectionately known, attended Moorestown Friends School in Moorestown Township, New Jersey. She became an avid reader, and began attending Quaker boarding schools, first at Barnesville in Ohio and then Westtown Friends in Pennsylvania. Both parents worked with the American Friends Service Committee, and their eldest daughter, at a very young age, spent eight years overseas in England and Europe.

After graduating from Westtown Friends in 1940, she headed west to attend Colorado College. While there, she met and married Robert Lennox. They moved to Oakland, California, where their children Stuart and Mary were born while Bob was serving in the Pacific as a navigator for the Army Air Corp.

Following the war they moved to New Haven, Connecticut where Bliz helped pioneer ‘natural childbirth’ with the birth of William in 1949. Following a divorce in 1951, she moved with the children to Washington, D.C. to live with her mother. In order to support her children as a single parent, she took a job at the Army Map Service. There she met Guillo Brache, a Dominican native, whom she married in 1953. The family moved to Caracas, Venezuela.

In 1960, having separated from Guillo Brache, she moved back to Washington, DC. Through the suggestion and support of neurologist Dr. Margaret Buchtal Lennox, Bliz attained certification as an electroencephalographic technologist in February 1968. She went on to work at the National Institutes of Health and Georgetown University, from which she retired in 1984. During these busy years, in addition to raising her family, she was active in Friends Meeting of Washington, enjoyed galleries, museums, musical and cultural events, and found camaraderie in a women’s book club.

Following a debilitating stroke, she was moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, to be near daughters Margie and Susie. Through their assiduously loving care, she made astounding progress and was able to enjoy several years in assisted living. In 2012, when the need for skilled nursing care became evident, she moved to Boulder Manor in Colorado, where daughter Mary and son Jamie were able to visit her almost daily. Here she was able to celebrate her 90th and 91st birthdays with a steady flow of visitors, kind staff and abundant laughter. Bliz died in Boulder, Colorado, on November 21, 2013.

Bliz is survived by her seven children: Stu Lennox, Mary Lennox, Bill Lennox, Lolita Brache, Margie Brache, Susie Brache and Jamie Brache; 14 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild (Emma), her sister Marge Cope of Moorestown, New Jersey, and many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.