



Vivian Evelyn Irmscher

August 24, 1921 - September 11, 2018

Let me tell you the story of Vivian Irmscher. It won't be quite like she would have told it, because she would make sure you noted everyone's first AND last names and heard at least something about who their parents or children are. But first, let's walk up to her back door, latch the gate so the dog doesn't get out, and head into the kitchen. You'd better be hungry, because she was a true mid-westerner: if you were at her house you MUST be hungry and in need of a good cup of coffee. If she didn't have your favorite on hand, just give her a minute and she'd whip something up. Tell her that you just ate, and she would give you a puzzled look and offer something else because surely there was something she could feed you.

No story about Vivian Irmscher would be complete without talking about her faith. Throughout Vivian's early years, Meta Berg instilled her love of God in her daughter. Vivian was confirmed in the Lutheran church in her early teens, and it played a large role the rest of her life. She constantly strove to help her fellow man, spreading love and the word of God until the day she died.

Vivian Evelyn Irmscher was born August 24, 1921 in Buffalo, ND. Her parents Arthur and Meta (Richman) Berg had married in 1918, shortly before Arthur left for WWI. Her brother, Harold, was 1 ½ years older, and baby sister Arline didn't come along for another five years.

She graduated high school in 1939 as salutatorian and was awarded two scholarships, though finances prevented her from accepting either of them. That same year she met Ted Irmscher, who would become the love of her life. Before long, they were a couple, and became engaged Christmas of 1941. Ted was soon drafted into WWII and they married on St. Patrick's Day, 1942, three days before he had to report for duty. Because Vivian was still attending Dakota Business College in Fargo, they didn't publicly announce their marriage until she graduated that August. Vivian and Ted longed for children. Son David joined the family in 1952 and was the light of his mother's life. Grandson Matthew came along September of 1976, to the delight of both Vivian and Ted. Finally, Annika joined the family in 2002, when she and Matt married.

Vivian's love of music began early, in elementary school she started piano lessons. She continued playing piano the rest of her life. In her later years she became a true champion

of music and the arts. She worked for both San Bernardino Valley Community Concert Association and Arrowhead Allied Arts Council for almost 40 years, finally retiring in 1993. Vivian was widely recognized for her work and influence in this area. The 50th anniversary program of the San Bernardino Valley Concert Association ran a special tribute to her. The tribute begins "Vivian Irmischer is one of the great unsung heroines of San Bernardino" and ends "Her obsequious manner belies a firm and positive grasp of her position of leadership in the San Bernardino Valley Concert Association. The association owes her a great deal."

Vivian first moved to San Bernardino in August of 1943, when Ted was completing training in California. Though she left after about a year, to care for her mother, who was ill in Portland, she would return after the war to make her home. When they returned in 1946, Vivian resumed her job at the Sun Newspaper. She and Ted attended First English Lutheran Church until its closure in 1992. Vivian devoted her time to many organizations, including P.E.O., Women's Club, and Mary's Table to name just a few.

Vivian and her husband Ted, who passed away in March 2007, had an impact on everyone they met. Usually people go in and out of your life, but once the Irmischers were in your life they never really left. Countless people considered them family, because that's just how they treated people: like family. This warm, welcoming spirit and need to care for people was the foundation on which Vivian built her life. Each person, each relationship was a treasure for life as far as she and Ted were concerned, and we are all better people having known her.

Viewing will be on September 24th at Bobbitt Memorial Chapel at 5pm. Services on September 25th at Lutheran Church of Our Savior in San Bernardino at 12pm. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to: Symphony Jeunesse, San Bernardino Valley Concert Association, or Lutheran Church of our Savior.

Events

SEP **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Bobbitt Memorial Chapel

1299 E Highland Avenue, San Bernardino, CA, US, 92404

SEP **Church Service** 12:00PM - 01:00PM

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Lutheran Church of Our Savior

5050 N. Sierra Way, San Bernardino, CA, US, 92404

SEP **Committal Service** 01:30PM - 02:00PM

25

Mt View Cemetery

570 E. Highland Ave, San Bernardino, CA, US, 92404

Comments



“ Hi, my name is Jami and Vivian was my Godmother and what a gift she has been! Vivian was someone who could be described as pure love. She made everyone feel like they were the most important person in the world. And she gave the most wonderful, warm hugs!

Let me just share how she became part of our lives...

Our families met when Vivian and my dad, Jim Gorman, both worked at the Sun Times. In 1951 there was a tragic drowning accident involving my 2 brothers, Denny and Randy, 7 and 8 years old. Vivian and Ted reached out to my parents and sister Jan, who was only 3, with their loving arms and church family. My family became Lutherans and Viv and my mom, Lucia became fast friends for life. (But that's what happens after meeting Viv!) Being born 10 years later, Vivian and Ted became my Godparents! What a lucky girl! I was baptized as a baby (in a red velvet dress!) with Vivian, Ted, David and my family, and later was confirmed in the Lutheran church. My sister, Jan met her husband, Jim at Luther League and got married in 1966 and are still married 52 years later! It is truly amazing how one beautiful soul can effect the path of so many. My family moved away from San Bernardino, but over the years we returned innumerable times to visit. Visiting the cemetery was a normal part of life. A sad, yet happy time because we also got to see The Irmshers! Jan and I took a trip to CA (we live in AZ) this past April. We spent a lovely afternoon with Vivian and David in their inviting kitchen and dining room. We enjoyed fried chicken and See's Candy (our Mom's favorite). We are so grateful for this last time together. We, of course, visited the cemetery with David. We took flowers to Ted, and to the boys and to our Daddy who is now buried with them. It is a peaceful feeling knowing that they are all together there and in Heaven. Love you more.

Jami Lu O'Gorman - September 27, 2018 at 03:28 PM



“ Vivian has been in my life for as long as I can remember. She was my mother's best friend and my sister's godmother. It was always a fun time growing up to visit her, Ted & David at their house. She was so warm and welcoming and had a heart of gold and loved everyone! She made me feel happy just to be in her presence.

My thoughts and prayers are with David and his family.

Jan Barrington - September 24, 2018 at 07:29 PM



“ Sorry For Your Loss
Jesus Loves Me
We Are Special



Thomas Widgeon - September 18, 2018 at 06:32 AM