Sister
Madeline Trask,
a remembrance
1905-1998

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever
Psalm 23
Sister
Madeline Trask,
a remembrance
1905-1998

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by George Graham Trask to

Emma Harriet Trask Miars

Scriptural text in this publication is from the King James and Revised Standard versions of the Holy Bible

Cover: Sister in the flower garden
at the big house on the farm,
Castle Hayne Road,
Wilmington, North Carolina, 1962

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1909

Sister at age 4
In remembrance

Madeline Trask lived almost 93 years, loyal and caring friend to all members of her extraordinarily large family and to the many people from all walks of life who knew her. Called Sister by everyone, she was the third child and the first of only two girls in a family of eleven children, all but one of whom grew to adulthood and old age.

Sister lived her entire life on land at the Trask home place on Castle Hayne Road, Wilmington, North Carolina, except 1914-15 in Beaufort, South Carolina, where her father, a large-scale commercial truck farmer, had acquired more fertile land. During the 1930s, '40s and '50s when the family owned and farmed thousands of acres in Wilmington, Beaufort, and Myrtle Beach, she served as secretary and treasurer of G.W. Trask & Sons, whose principal office was located at Wrightsboro, up Castle Hayne Road from the big house.

After graduation in 1927 from University of North Carolina at Greensboro, known then as Women's College, Sister taught home economics at Wilmington's New Hanover High School for ten years. She was an ardent Christian deeply committed to her Baptist faith and fellow believers in Christ. To further that commitment, she founded in the 1960s and for many years operated Bible Book Store in downtown Wilmington.

Throughout her life she was an accomplished gardener and a devoted piano player of hymns at church and in her home.

Sister was preceded in death by her parents, George W. and Emma Gertrude Borneman Trask, and by her nine brothers—Neil Webster, Christian Heide, George W. Jr., John Morris, Donald Graeme, Raiford Graham, Allen Nelson, Harold Eugene, and Alexander McEachern Trask. She passed away peacefully at her home on Castle Hayne Road, in sight of the big house in which she was born and grew up that was her parents’ house, on the evening of Monday, February 23, 1998.

Sister sought fervently to teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to her family and to everyone she knew. She died in confidence that she would meet in life after death her parents, her siblings, her nieces, and her nephews; her friends; and her beloved Jesus Christ. She left in life on earth 29 nieces and nephews; 72 great-nieces and great-nephews; a host of friends too numerous to count; and the youngest of her siblings, her only sister, Emma Harriet Trask Miars, who today at age 83 remains beautiful and vibrant, an exemplar of the strength and tenacity of the Trask family whose member we honor here, a perfect sister, Madeline Trask.
Psalm 23

1: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
3: He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
4: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
5: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
6: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.
1908

Sister with the first three of her nine brothers
rear: Sister, age 3; Neil, age 8; Heide, age 6
front: George Jr., age 1
Letter written in 1909 for Sister in the handwriting of her mother, Emma Borneman Trask, to Sister’s first cousin, Bruce Barclay Cameron, who was a student at Bingham Military Academy.
Sister’s father, George W. Trask, whom she called Papa, with her next four brothers in 1922
Back row: John, age 10 (peeping) and Raiford, age 8; front row: Allen, age 4; and Harold, age 2
I Corinthians 15:1-4

1: Now I would remind you, brethren, in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand,
2: by which you are saved, if you hold it fast—unless you believed in vain.
3: For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,
4: that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures.
For Mother's Birthday

To my Mother, best and dearest,
All my heart gives
love and praise;
May you find each
year grows brighter,
Joys increased, and burdens lighter,
Every birthday the beginning
of a year of happy days.

Sister

Mrs. M. W. Irick
Route No. 1
Wilmington
N. C.
Sister's bachelor of science diploma from The North Carolina College for Women
June 6, 1927
Letter of recommendation for Sister after she completed post-graduate training as a dietician in Philadelphia PA
1930s
I Corinthians 15:12-28

12: Now if Christ is preached as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
13: But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised;
14: if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.
15: We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
16: For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.
17: If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
18: Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
19: If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied.
20: But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
21: For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
22: For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.
23: But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.
24: Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.
25: For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
26: The last enemy to be destroyed is death.
27: “For God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “All things are put in subjection under him,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things under him.
28: When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things under him, that God may be everything to every one.
### Faculty

**DR. W. O. HAMPTON, Principal**  
**MISS ADRIAN CROOK, Secretary**  
**MRS. G. A. LAING, Registrar**

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Page from 1933 New Hanover High School yearbook, Wilmington NC, showing Sister as a member of the faculty in the domestic science department
1938

G.W. Trask & Sons farm ledger for North Carolina operations at depth of Great Depression shows one-month total of $2899.15, equivalent to about $44,000 in inflated 2010 dollars.
Digging, bagging and weighing potatoes in a field on one of the Trask farms at Beaufort, South Carolina
Sister (third from left) with Papa (George W. Trask), her sister Emma, and Mama (Emma Borne-man Trask) at the home place on Castle Hayne Road, Wilmington NC
Four of her eight brothers: John, Raiford, Allen, George
Four more of her eight brothers: Alex, Harold, Heide, Neil
41: There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.
42: So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable.
43: It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.
44: It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.
45: Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.
46: But it is not the spiritual which is first but the physical, and then the spiritual.
47: The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.
48: As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven.
49: Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.
50: I tell you this, brethren: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.
51: Lo! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
52: in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.
53: For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality.
54: When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”
55: “O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?”
56: The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
57: But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
58: Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.
A hymn

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
   That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
   Was blind, but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
   And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
   The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
   I have already come;
’Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
   And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
   His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
   As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
   And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
   A life of joy and peace.

The world shall soon dissolve like snow,
   The sun refuse to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
   Shall be forever mine.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
   Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
   Than when we’d first begun

   John Newton, 1779
Sister with her sister Emma and a few of their nieces and nephews on a summer afternoon at Wrightsville Beach NC on her brother Heide’s boat, “Nancy Lee”
Upper left to right: Raiford Jr., Emma, Tuggie, Kitty McKay Trask, Sister, Lower left to right: John Jr., Heide Jr., Kitty, Charles, Sue, George, Alex Jr.
A prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take.

18th-century child’s bedtime prayer

Sister recited this prayer to her young nieces
and nephews at bedtime when they spent the
night at the big house on Castle Hayne Road
Ephesians 3:14-21

14: For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15: Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
16: That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
17: That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
18: May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.
20: Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
21: Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.
Colossians 2:3;9-10

3: In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

* * *

9: For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

10: And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principal-ity and power.
Colossians 3:1-4

1: If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
2: Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.
3: For you have died, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
4: When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
MADELINE TRASK, age 92, died Monday, February 23, 1998, at her family home on Castle Hayne Road, Wilmington, N.C. She was the oldest surviving member of the Trask family of Wilmington, Myrtle Beach, and Beaufort.

She was born May 28, 1905, the daughter of George W. Trask and Emma Borneman Trask. The third child in a family of eleven children, she outlived all nine of her brothers; Neil, Heide, George, John, Donald, Raiford, Allen, Harold, and Alex.

She spent a portion of her childhood in Beaufort after her father originally acquired farm land here in the area surrounding the highway 21/170 intersection at Burton. She attended Beaufort Elementary School in 1914 when it was located in the original Beaufort College building on Carteret Street (now offices of University of South Carolina - Beaufort).

Madeline Trask was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and taught home economics at New Hanover High School in Wilmington for many years. She was secretary and treasurer of G.W. Trask & Sons, a major truck farming operation in Wilmington, Myrtle Beach, and Beaufort.

Surviving are her sister, Emma Trask Miars, 29 nieces and nephews, and 72 great-nieces and great-nephews. Funeral services were held Thursday, February 26, 1998, at Wrightsboro Baptist Church near Wilmington, founded by her parents in 1909. Burial was at Oakdale Cemetery, Wilmington, next to the graves of her father and mother. Pallbearers were her nephews.
## Order of Service

Wrightsboro Baptist Church  
Wilmington, North Carolina  
11:00 a.m., Thursday, February 26, 1998

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<td>Hymn 334 Blessed Assurance</td>
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<td>Scripture: I Corinthians 15:1-4</td>
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<td>I Corinthians 15:41-58</td>
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<td>Hymn 165 Amazing Grace</td>
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<td>Scripture: Colossians 2:3;9-10</td>
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<td>Colossians 3:1-4</td>
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<td>Meditation</td>
<td>Rev. Horace Hilton</td>
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<td>Hymn 52 Crown Him with many Crowns</td>
<td>Congregation</td>
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<td>Benediction</td>
<td>Rev. Horace Hilton</td>
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The leaders of the service are Dr. Harvey H. Whaley, Jr., pastor of Wrightsboro Baptist Church, and the Reverend Horace H. Hilton, Jr., pastor emeritus of Myrtle Grove Presbyterian Church.

The pallbearers are nephews of Madeline Trask. A private family burial next to the graves of her parents will follow the service.

The family will receive friends at 2501 Canterbury Road.

Memorials may be made to Lower Cape Fear Hospice, 725-a Wellington Road, Wilmington, nc 28401 or to Wrightsboro Baptist Church, 2736 Castle Hayne Road, Wilmington, nc 28401.
Coastal Villages Press is dedicated to helping preserve the timeless values of traditional places along America’s Atlantic coast—building houses to endure through the centuries; living in harmony with the natural environment; honoring history, culture, family and friends—and helping to make these values relevant today.

This book was completed on September 23, 2010, at Beaufort SC. It was designed and set by George Graham Trask in Adobe Jenson Pro, a typeface inspired by the Italian renaissance.