



## Mrs. Trudy Tuinstra Barker

March 16, 1922 - March 19, 2015

Thelma (Trudy) Tuinstra Barker age 93, of Holland, died Thursday, March 19, 2015 at Holland Hospital. Born March 16, 1922, in Watertown, Wisconsin, daughter of Claus Gustav Maack and Esther Baerwald Maack. She graduated June, 1940 from West Division High School in Milwaukee, an already accomplished violinist and contralto vocalist. She furthered her musical studies at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and at the Chicago Conservatory of Music. Trudy graduated in 1944 from Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, where she also used her musical talents extensively on Moody Radio Network.

She married Gerald J. (Jerry) Tuinstra, a pastoral studies graduate of Moody, in 1945. Together, as pastor and wife, they served congregations in Indiana, Michigan, and Illinois until retirement in 1985. They moved to Holland, Michigan in 1986 and served interim pastorates in eleven Michigan congregations.

Trudy also served as the women's column writer of the national magazine of the Independent Fundamental Churches of America. Following the death of Pastor Jerry in June, 1999, she married widower and friend Philip A. Barker in June 2005 and joined him in the membership of Messiah's Independent Reformed Church in Holland. A daughter, Nancy Ann at age 4, preceded her in death. Trudy is survived by her husband Phil, children; Roger and Ruth Tuinstra of Bangor, MI, Wesley Tuinstra of Colorado Springs, CO, Melody and Bill Freckman of Holland; grandchildren, Timothy and Kelly Tuinstra, Renee

and Mike Trexler, Erin and Jason Lawyer, Eric and Jennifer Freckman, Melissa and Brian Hill, Brian Freckman, and 16 great grandchildren. Visitation will be 3-6 p.m. Sunday, March 22, 2015 at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th St. Holland. A funeral service will be 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 23, at the funeral home with Rev. Kenneth Anema officiating. Burial will be in Graafschap Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to Moody Bible Institute or the Middle East Reformed Fellowship.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Trudy Tuinstra Barker*

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August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *Mr. Barker - I am so sorry for your lost. Your wife was a kind caring person and I could tell you were so loving to her. I was shocked to read of her death today in the newspaper. I just saw both of you last Sunday at Holland Hospital where you regularly came to eat lunch on Sundays. She would always talk you into pushing her wheelchair into the gift shop. She loved to browse the lovely items and try to talk you into something. I could see the love you both had for each other. She made a comment last week - "wish I could buy that table and chair set even if I enjoyed it for a week" - I wish I could have sold it to you many times. I did not know the details of her life and she must have been loved by all. Again I am sorry for your lost and many will miss her.*

*Cathi - Sunday gift shop volunteer"*

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**Cathi** - March 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LP

“Right now I am lost for words. I am still in FL and was reading the paper on line.  
TRUDY was a Dear Christian Friend. I am so sorry I will not be home for her service.  
Melody, you will miss your mom but so thankful for the long life you have had with her.  
We enjoyed our weekly breakfast and I too will miss having her to talk and share the Love of God. I know there are others that feel the same. There is just so much your mother did it is hard to mention it all. She was one of God's "very special" daughter's.  
To the rest of her family you have my sympathy. And to you Phil, you were sent from God for her. You were a very special caregiver. May God be with all of you during this time of Celebrating her Home Going. God Bless each of you.”

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**Lela Pifer** - March 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“I have great memories singing in the choir with Trudy at Oak Lawn Bible Church many years ago. She was a wonderful woman and a great friend of my husband Tim's family. I'm sure she will be greatly missed by many and is having a great time as she's been reunited with many who have gone before her. Tim and Sandy McCrory”

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**Sandy McCrory** - March 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VH

“Melody I know what you are going through right now and I empathize with you. A mother and daughter bond is one that can never need broken. Your mom was such a special lady and for me to have known her has made my life better!! Love your family!!”

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**Vick Ver Hoef** - March 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BE

“*How blessed we were to have met and instantly loved Trudy. The Lord used her in so many ways to bring glory to His Name. We will always remember her sweet smile, and warmth. We are proud that her granddaughter Erin, became part of our family when she married our son, Jason. Sending our love and sympathy to Phil, and to all her family. Blessings, Ben & Debbie Lawyer*”

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**Ben** - March 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MC

“*We will miss Trudy. An amazing lady, so kind and sweet. I admired the relationship she and her daughter shared. They truly enjoyed each others company.*”

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**Mary Jo and Chad CREEVY** - March 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM