

Today we gather to honor the memory of Theresa Stanúlis, beloved friend, sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother. Your presence here is a testament to her influence on your lives; through the love you shared with her.

She was a friend to those in need, and was known for her wonderful sense of humor. She loved spending time with family. Up until a dozen or so years ago she still enjoyed flying with her grandson.

Theresa was born in 1910. More than 103 years ago. And I understand she had a particular secret to her long life. :-)

The world she was born into in 1910 was very different than our own in many ways, but also similar in others.

William Howard Taft was president.

A crippling snow storm hit the midwest that year, being particularly bad in Ohio.

Halley's Comet was visible that year, and wouldn't return until 1986.

King George V ascended to the throne of Great Britain. The first native-born Prime Minister of Egypt was assassinated. Turkey was at war with Armenia. And Japan forced Korea to sign a treaty of annexation.

As far as technology, the wireless telegraph was being used to communicate with ships at sea.

The Boy Scouts of America were founded that year.

And airplanes were the latest new thing.

The first aviation meet to be held in the United States happened in Los Angeles. Theodore Roosevelt became the first former President to ride in an airplane. And the first use of airplanes for commercial freight takes place between Dayton and Columbus.

The US population that year reached more than 90 million. And Henry Ford sold 10,000 cars in 1910.

Indeed, the more things change the more they stay the same.

Another way to say it is that for us, the living ... life goes on.

And so we accompany Theresa on her final journey with our prayers. Knowing that your love for her ... and her love for you ... are eternal. And inasmuch as you are praying for her - rest assured that she is praying for you as well.

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord ...