



**PAUL B. PENNINGTON, JR. and ALICE M. PENNINGTON**

Paul Barrett Pennington, Jr. passed away on Sunday, June 28, 2020 at the age of 97. His loving wife of 73 years, Alice McIlvaine Pennington, passed away on Saturday, March 13, 2021. Paul was born July 9, 1922 in Shreveport, Louisiana to Paul Barrett Pennington and Janice DeGraffenreid. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother John A. Pennington. Alice was born August 10, 1923 in Mansfield, Ohio to Clarence and Grace McIlvaine. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Paul B. Pennington, Jr., her brother Jim McIlvaine, and her sister Peggy Buis. Paul and Alice were also preceded in death by their son-in-law Patrick O'Connor and their great-grandchild Fisher Woodchick. They are survived by their son John B. Pennington and his wife Mary; daughter Peggy Pennington O'Connor, daughter Diana Pennington Fly and her husband Bob; their grandchildren Kate Fly, Lindsey Thomas (Matt), Blake Pennington (Kristin), Molly Woodchick, and Courtney Sleiman (Alecco); their great-grandchildren Carter Thomas, Kylie Thomas, and John Barrett Pennington; and special family members Rosemary and Mel Gafner, Karen and Mark Mobley, and Jacob Sleiman.

Paul moved to Houston, at a very young age and attended Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, Lanier Junior High School, and Lamar High School, where he was a member of the first graduating class. He was a graduate and letterman of Texas A&M University, Class of 1942. He made the varsity basketball team as a freshman and became an enthusiastic Texas A&M supporter as a member of the Lettermen's Association and other Aggie organizations. His fascination with sports, which began early and lasted throughout his life, included a love for tennis which he played well into his eighties. Paul enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942, commissioned as a Lieutenant, and was stationed at France Field in the Panama Canal Zone as a fighter pilot, mainly flying P-38's. It was while he was stationed in Panama that he met Alice McIlvaine. Though he returned to Houston after the war, his heart remained with his soulmate Alice in Panama, and they wed in Houston in 1946.

In his professional life, Paul served as Vice President and Board Member of American General Life Insurance Company. He became a Certified Life Underwriter (CLU) and Fellow Life Member of Insurance (FLMI). After he retired from American General, he served as a consultant for American Capital Insurance Company. He was a member of The Briar Club, The Huisache Club, The Torch Club, and St. Philip Presbyterian Church, where he served in numerous leadership roles. Paul will forever be cherished as the sweetest, kindest, and most loving man. He is loved and missed by those blessed to have known him.

### *High Flight*

*Oh, I have slipped the surly bond of earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth  
Of sunsplit clouds—and done hundreds of things  
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence.*

*Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air.*

*Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace  
Where never lark, nor even eagle flew.*

*And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.*

♦

When Alice McIlvaine was seven years old, her family moved to the Panama Canal Zone, where her uncle was the Executive Secretary to the Governor of the Panama Canal. She graduated from Balboa High School in 1941. Alice loved living in the tropical paradise of Panama, a young life different from most Americans. During the war she worked as a secretary as well as a volunteer at the USO. She met Paul, her future husband who was stationed in Panama, on a blind date. After they married and began their life together in Houston, Alice had a special way of making a house feel like a home. She was always a stylish dresser and a talented homemaker who loved entertaining, cooking, and gardening. She derived great joy in hosting family gatherings, making every occasion and every holiday memorable. In her leisure time, she loved to travel with her husband and family. Alice was an active member of St. Philip Presbyterian Church, serving as deacon, usher, and Sunday School teacher. She was a Cub Scout and Camp Fire Girl leader, as well as a member of the Houston Junior Forum and The Garden Club. Alice leaves behind a long legacy of love, adventure, and family. She was indeed a good wife, a devoted mother, and sweet grandmother and great-grandmother.



## **THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP AT WORSHIP**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2021**

### **A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**PAUL BARRETT PENNINGTON, JR.**

**July 9, 1922—June 28, 2020**

**and**

**ALICE MCILVAINE PENNINGTON**

**August 10, 1923—March 13, 2021**

## PRELUDE

## OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## SOLO

*How Great Thou Art*

## PRAYER

Eternal God, our strength and our comfort,  
our hope and our help,  
your love cares for us in life and watches over us in death.  
We praise you for the great company  
of all those who have kept the faith, finished their race,  
and who now rest from their labor.  
Especially we thank you for Paul and Alice,  
whom you have now received into your presence.  
We are grateful for all they gave us,  
for the memories that will abide with us,  
and for the assurance that they live forever  
in the peace and joy of your unending love.  
Take from us now our regrets and sorrows,  
and grant us your grace, we pray,  
that as we face the mystery of death  
we may see the light of eternity,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*silent prayer*

Holy One, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

## DECLARATION

## TRIBUTES

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
Romans 8:31-39

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil;  
for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.

*Death leaves a heartache no one can heal;  
Love leaves a memory no one can steal.*

— Irish headstone

### SOLO                   *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

#### ♦ COMMENDATION

#### ♦ BLESSING

#### ♦ POSTLUDE

*A small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world;  
indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.*

— Margaret Mead

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. John W. Wurster

Randall Swanson — organist  
Thomas Lewis O'Neill — soloist

