

Grapevine

Honoring my mother

by Berni Kaufman, Executive Assistant, Mennonite Women USA

It's Sunday night and I've just returned from our weekly family ritual. We (two brothers, a sister-in-law, two nieces and a two-year-old grandniece, and I) gather with Mom and Dad for supper and the evening. After supper, some of us play cards, others play with the toddler and often the two activities intertwine. An evening like this portrays Mom in her element.

Teaching: She often prepares supper with her granddaughter. She feely shares her recipes with others. We come expecting the tried-and-true dishes we remember from childhood.

Nurturing: People are well-fed at Mom's table. In fact, unless there is food left over, in her eyes, she has not prepared enough.

Accepting: She readily accepts the extra care a toddler requires. She (and Dad) listen to our needs and help as they can.

Fun-loving: Mom loves playing games. She laughs easily and heartily. She is loving, a Rock of Gibraltar and a joy to be around.

Always a mom: She stands on the porch as we leave, waiting till we leave. She waves the hand sign for "I love you," her last words to us as we part.

Neva Kaufman's table is her mission field. Here we are fed physically and spiritually, welcomed with love, and sent on our way affirmed. 📷

MW USA Mission and Vision:

Our mission at Mennonite Women USA is to empower women and women's groups as we nurture our life in Christ through studying the Bible, using our gifts, hearing each other, and engaging in mission and service.

Mennonite Women USA invites women across generations, cultures, and places to share and honor our stories, care for each other, and express our prophetic voice boldly as we seek to follow Christ.

Berni Kaufman and her mother, Neva Kaufman



Courtesy photo