

**MOMENTS ARE EVENTS THAT TOUCH ETERNITY...**

can't predict or plan or prepare or capture a "moment"

can't always realize a "moment" at the time.

Paul and Mary and Jean and I were with Terry

around Marlene's bed...remembering telling laughing singing

*"Love is something if you give it away you keep on having more."*

I offered my word for the day:

*"Now abides faith, hope and love...the greatest of these is love.*

*"Love never ends."*

We joined hands with Marlene around the bed and sang

*"Let there be peace on earth..." "Let me walk with my family..."*

*"In peace eternally."*

It's the closing song we've used in our Moment events...

beginning with so many Easters on Vineyard Mountain

forty years ago.

So many memories come to mind of a beautiful person...

summer visits year after year here at our summer hideout...

a progressive inquiring open mind sharing mutual heresies.

At first came a feeling of loss and emptiness that she is gone...

then a growing heap of memories that keep coming...

she is everywhere.

Some find comfort in some sort of faith or traditional hope...

a slippery slope none can prove...

but her love for us is everlasting as is our love for her.

Love never ends.

Art Morgan, September 19, 2018

**A BIT OF BACKGROUND...**

Terry and Marlene Lorenzen had just started attending my church in Corvallis when I made a rather abrupt decision to resign. It was a confusing, unorthodox leaving of a good church. Even Jean didn't know until I had already quit. The Board met that night and ultimately voted not to accept my resignation.

But they had pressed a hidden eject button I had put in place when I first began being a minister. It was based on the observation that if the minister was ever at the center of church dispute, especially over staff issues, loyalties are formed and divisions occur that are not good for the church or the minister. I had vowed that if I ever felt there was such an issue I would leave before there was any fight over me.

When the Board Chairman told me that there had been a secret meeting and that I was to be the subject of the Board Meeting that night, he had hit my eject button. I did a funeral that morning and was done. At that point I wondered about who my friends might be. Paul was music director who also resigned.

The next night, Terry and Marlene invited us out to dinner. We hardly knew them, but he had some empathy since he had one day shoved the keys to the Wards store he managed under the door and walked away. He began by helping me clean out my office on which my lock had been changed, my files gone through, my wall decorations piled in a big box. My ministry to churches ended and my ministry to those disconnected from the church began. I would be 40 years unemployed, no church, no members, no committees, and no income. Just moments as they happened. I thank Terry and Marlene for their enduring love.