

(The following piece was read at Mrs. Jobe's Memorial Service on July 9, 1987. Betty Brown wished to share it with you.)

"The old order changeth..."

Lizzie Jobe
1900-1987

With the death of Lizzie Jobe July 5, 1987, the first generation of our UFR family has been diminished. Lizzie together with her husband L.H. became charter members of the Fellowship in 1949 and maintained a keen interest in all its activities for the rest of their lives.

Lizzie was a quiet, restrained and gentle lady but firm in her convictions and always there in support of family, friends and fellowship. Comforting, kind and thoughtful are some of the words friends use to describe her.

Love of family, which was central to Lizzie's life, began early in Wise, NC, where she was born on July 28, 1900. One of eleven, she helped around the farm where tobacco was grown.

Lizzie's desire for higher education was cut short after six months at Women's College, Greensboro, due to a knee injury. Summer school at UNC preceeded teaching in Virginia, North Carolina and in a one-room school for mixed race children near the NC State Fairgrounds.

Her marriage in 1922 to L.H. Jobe turned her interests to home and family. Two daughters, Barbara (Michos) and Elizabeth (Hilbourn), and the four grandchildren who came later were the focus of her love and attention. In 1984 the death of L.H. ended their marriage of sixty-two years.

Lizzie's reputation for hospitality and good southern cooking is legendary. She went to cooking school and learned about good nutrition and healthful cooking methods. L.H. loved to garden and grew many vegetables in the lot next to their house on Garden Place. Lizzie cooked, canned and froze the produce, and they shared the surplus freely. Flowers were a special love of hers, and some could always be found around the house.

In the years following the formation of the Unitarian Fellowship of Raleigh, Lizzie attended the Wednesday evening discussion group regularly. Her cooking, sewing, crocheting and tatting skills benefited the Fellowship in many fundraisers. More importantly, her interest in the Fellowship and its welfare never wavered. She and L.H. supported it in good times and bad times over the years

Sunday morning programs were important to her and in recent years she continued to attend with great effort. While L.H. was outspoken about his beliefs, Lizzie in her quiet way maintained her own convictions. Sometimes their votes on Fellowship decisions diverged.

Lizzie continued to be a member of Community United Church of Christ even after helping organize the Unitarian Fellowship and particularly enjoyed the Ellen Price Book Club. She loved to read and read extensively and shared this interest with others. The local chapter of the League of Women Voters was another interest of hers, and she worked on the Membership Committee and in the unit discussion groups.

The wonder is that Lizzie and L.H., North Carolina natives born around the turn of the century in small North Carolina communities, were so modern and liberal in their thinking and willing to take stands on such issues as civil rights and liberal religion contrary to traditional southern views. Conviction, concern and commitment are important aspects of their legacy to us. May we find the will to follow their example as the years go by and the old order changes again and again.

Betty Brown

(Note: A tree will be planted on the Fellowship grounds in memory of Lizzie Jobe sometime in the fall.)