



"This Christian Life"

Anna Marie & Wallace McColgan

Each and every story is special in God's eyes. "This Christian Life" takes a captivating look at everyday folks living extraordinary lives. So without any further interruptions it is our pleasure to introduce to you the McColgans.



Anna Marie and Wallace McColgan are two delightful people who have come into our lives through a series of events and places.

Wallace was born in West Virginia and it was during WWII that he was sent to Texas with the Army Air Force. After the war ended he lived for many years in Victoria where he attended Trinity Lutheran Church with his wife who was from Germany. He ably served on the church council, as Sunday School superintendent, and on the property committee.

Wallace worked for Central Power and Light. His company transferred him to Corpus Christi where he lived for the next thirteen years. While in Corpus his son, John, was born. Later Wallace moved to El Campo and was living there when his wife died in February of 1978.

Anna Marie grew up in the Catholic church and gave birth to a daughter in 1945. She had a nodding acquaintance with Wallace but they were never close friends. After Anna Marie's



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husband died in January of 1978 she and Wallace began dating.

As they told this story, there were many shy smiles and giggles while the events unfolded and they revealed the unlikeliness of their ever getting together. Then the plot thickened.

Anna Marie, being a widow, decided to sell her property and move to Tennessee. The house was sold and finally Wallace asked her out on a date. Here she was, without a place to live, a half-formed plan in her mind to move to Tennessee, and this dashing and delightful man wanting to know her much better. What to do!

Despite the fact that Anna Marie was a dancer, loved dancing and having a good time with friends, Wallace not only didn't dance, he never learned how. Notwithstanding, they were married on September 7, 1979 and will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on Labor Day next week.

After moving to Flower Mound to be near their children, they began traveling. Took lots of bus trips. Drove around in a motor home. The trip that was most memorable, according to the McColgans, was the trip they made to the Great Smokey Mountains. While they did not divulge any of the fun things that happened on this particular trip, they made it



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clear that it was definitely an unforgettable vacation. Don't ask...don't tell!

In talking with Anna Marie and Wallace about miracles in their lives, they agreed that they were the recipients of several happenings that could have come only from God. Anna Marie talked about her daughter and the three grandsons who have given so very much joy in her life. Wallace said that the doctor had told him that his unborn son was dead so not to expect a lively baby at birth. But the doctor was wrong! This son, John, is the delight of Wallace's life.

The legacy they are leaving centers around the grandchildren. His and hers. He talked about John and the fact that he has not been free with saying the words, "I love you" to his son. We talked further and Wallace said that he knows his son loves him because twice each month he drives for eight hours to visit his Dad. Words are not the only way we can tell people how we feel about them and how very much we love them. Sometimes it is more revealing to show by actions that family members are beloved by their offspring.

Mrs. McColgan talked about the gazillion molasses cookies she made for the grandchildren, the 100's of quarts of dill pickles she canned and the gallons of red macaroni she fed to the little ones. Probably there are more stories like these. But time was moving quickly through the glass and the



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interviewers needed to meet the next obligation. So, we left them with warm "Goodbye" words and hugs all around.

On March 31, the occasion of Wallace's 91st birthday, family and friends from Abiding Peace Community Church showered him with cards and their love in celebration of this very special day.

Wallace and Anna Marie are obviously deeply in love. They still flirt with each other. Their recliners sit side by side. They are bound together for the rest of their lives. This is a love story that should inspire each of us to put our spouses in first place. There are no starring roles in marriage, just ask the McColgans.



Editor's Note: As the last lines were written in this article, word came that Wallace has died, peacefully, at home with his loving family around him. A gentle end to a beautiful life, followed by the promise of Heaven forever. Rest in peace.