

**Stella Perry Mayo**  
**(September 16, 1930 - March 17, 2017) Age 86**



Stella Perry Mayo, 86, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, March 17, 2017 in Dayton, Ohio. She was born on September 16, 1930 in Wayne County, W.Va., to the late Melvin and Malissee Toppins Perry. Stella was the eldest of nine children. She met her husband, Dr. Shelby Mayo of Huntington, W.Va. and they married in 1953. Stella and Shelby served their Lord in full time ministry in Ohio before being called to overseas missions. On March 17, 1970 (47 years to the date of Stella's death) they arrived in Indonesia to begin their ministry with World Baptist Fellowship in a country that they came to love. They went on to serve in New Zealand, Singapore, and Hawaii. Stella assisted her husband in starting several churches and seeing many people from these various cultures come to faith in Christ. Stella and Shelby semi-retired in Clearwater,

Fla. They attended the Bible Baptist Church in Palm Harbor, Fla. In addition to her parents, Stella was preceded in death by her beloved husband Shelby Mayo; son, Dwight Mayo; step-mother, Maxine Perry; sister, Yorkie Perry Stender Werth; brother, Walter Perry; and great granddaughter, Eliana Densmore. Stella is survived by three children, Jeanetta (Chet) Tibbetts of Kettering, Ohio; Barbara (Richard) Neville of Christchurch, New Zealand; and Paul (Sara) Mayo of Pantego, Texas, four brothers, Randall Perry (Sue) of Felicity, Ohio, Dolphus Perry of Lavalette, WV, Orval Perry (Brenda) and Michael Perry (Debbie) all of Wayne, WV, three sisters, Joann Perry Perkins of Lavalette, WV, Brenda Sue Maynard (Roger) and Melva Lou Maynard (Dale) all of Wayne, WV, 13 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at Morris Funeral Home Chapel, Wayne with Rev. Brian Densmore officiating. Burial will follow at the Mayo Cemetery, Spring Valley. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Tuesday.

Article taken from "The Fundamentalist" Summer 2017, written by Wendell Hiers

**Stella Mayo.. .a Champion**

The 1968 World Baptist Fellowship Candidate Seminar consisted of five applicants, one of these couples was Shelby and Stella Mayo. On March 17, 1970 (47 years to the date of Stella's home going)

Stella and Shelby arrived in Indonesia. The years that followed saw Shelby and Stella serving in New Zealand, Singapore, and Hawaii. Stella was preceded in death by her much-loved husband and her son, Dwight Mayo.

Stella was a mirror of strength and endurance. She had the temperance of quality steel and was a mix of many sterling qualities. Foremost among those qualities was her willingness to assume burdens of a missionary wife. She was a lady who took pride in her responsibilities, delighting in the opportunity to serve her family and her God. She never faced her problems resentfully, as though there was no escape. Stella was a tender, gentle, kind, generous, and patient woman devoted to the care and protection of those things she held dear.

### The Dash

By Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak  
At the funeral of a friend  
He referred to the dates on her tombstone  
from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth  
And spoke of the following date with tears,  
But he said what mattered most of all  
Was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time  
That she spent alive on earth.  
And now only those who loved her  
Know what that little line is worth.

For it matter not, how much we own,  
The cars...the house...the cash.  
What matters is how we live and love  
And how we spend our dash.

So, when your eulogy is being read,  
With your life's actions to rehash...  
Would you be proud of the things they say  
About how you spent your dash?

Stella Mayo spent her dash admirably. She possessed an intensity for achieving God's goals for her life, a drive that came not so much from the physical source as from the spirit and attitude that carried her toward God's goal for her life. Stella Mayo was a champion.