

7-16-2015

# Memorial Poem for Linda Grace Tenny Frisbie

Arnulf Esterer  
*Markko Vineyard*

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## Recommended Citation

Esterer, Arnulf(2015). Memorial Poem for Linda Grace Tenny Frisbie. *Markko Vineyard Documents*. Paper 59.  
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Linda Grace Tenny Frisbie

*June 4, 1940 to July 12, 2015*

*She came in a pickup  
with a one year old on the front seat  
"Do you need help?"  
"Sure. Come pick grapes tomorrow."*

*She did - long finger nails and all,  
a gun and knife under the seat,  
her chicken cooked in foil  
five miles on the exhaust manifold.*

*For Lucille they picked vines,  
then loaded and pressed boxes  
of whole bunches into juice  
-must for fermenting barrels*

*In deep blurring snow she pruned  
back to back with Bernie  
their mesh steel gloves-on  
tied to snapping pneumatic sheers.*

*Each missing vine she knew  
called for replacement.  
So winter grafting, a nursery  
with spring replanting followed.  
Cabernet being last,*

*coldest and a challenge to ripen,  
became her focus in the vineyard  
with Ali's guide to winemaking.*

*Always tireless on her knees  
the Cabs' got special care.  
Questioning everything!  
she held total control of red grapes*

*Presses held secrets only she found  
Each load tucked boxes to tanks.  
But cold crushed Reds needed  
her <sup>special</sup> Warming touch to start*

*From Helene, vineyard and wine,  
she saw, became one.  
Her fussy pallet could nose-out a barrel,  
then marry a 10-batch prize winner.*

*Customers sometimes wondered  
then loved her for truth, trust,  
honest compassionate friendship,  
and outstanding memory of them.*

*Culetta and crew developed a respect  
for her strong views and methods.  
She saved everything but knew where it was.  
Daily her chimney smoke signaled warmth to all*

*With Gregg, Mario and friends,  
she learned and shared her help, advice and feelings.*

*Students got the benefit of many  
practical and studied years.*

*Linda gave her life to Markko Vineyard.  
She recorded each vine, and every step  
from barrel to bottle to customer -  
a living legacy in a remarkable life work.*

*But last and most important of all  
everyone in family stayed in her heart.*

*Daily meals together, then Sunday Brunch*

*Linda, all past and future generations lovingly say, "Well Done"  
awe 7.16.15*

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