

Tribute from Maria de Klerk

A lifetime of service in Japan had given Mariana a unique insight into the value and importance of a knowledge of Japanese culture in reaching the Japanese people. With her books, she wanted to help missionaries gain the knowledge and skills to reach people in a culturally sensitive way. She prayed that the books would play a part in the growth of the church in Japan.

Her books not only drew on her own experience, but were also the result of thorough research. The focus was never on herself, but on the people that need Christ, and the workers in the field. From the start, Mariana channelled the income from the books into her work in the local community, helping youngsters to get into good schools, and to study further; supporting families in need.

Mariana's books were in a way a culmination of her intelligence, compassion and servant's heart.

Over the years Mariana became a dear friend, always interested in me and my family, always praying and caring. What a privilege to have known her and to have been part of this journey.

I will miss her dearly.

