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In Memoriam 

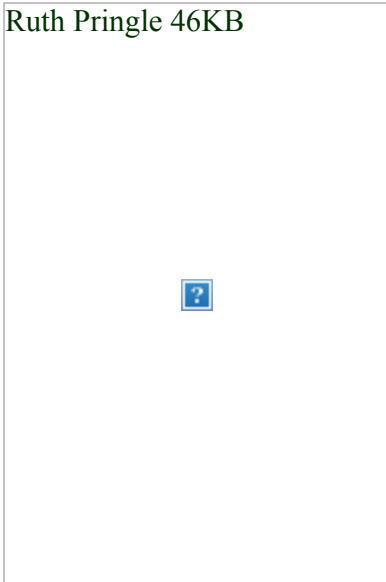
## In Memoriam

These souls have recently passed on to the 'Abhá Kingdom. Please join us in remembering them and the progress of their souls in your prayers.

*Verily, I beseech Thee to forgive the sins of such as have abandoned the physical garment and have ascended to the spiritual world.*

'Abdu'l-Bahá: Bahá'í Prayers, p. 41.

Ruth Pringle 46KB



### Ruth Pringle, Costa Rica

Ruth Pringle, who died at the age of 83, performed such outstanding service as a Continental Counsellor that the Universal House of Justice praised her as an “intrepid champion” of the Faith of God. Ruth became a Bahá'í in 1953 after reading the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh for the first time. Two months later, she left for Puerto Rico as a pioneer. In 1956 she moved to Honduras, spent a year in Guatemala, and then returned to Honduras. In the evenings, after working long hours as a nurse, she conducted youth activities, attracting up to 100 young people from all strata of society. Ruth's marriage to Alan Pringle was the first Bahá'í wedding to be legally recognised in Panama. As members of the National Spiritual Assembly of Panama, they both attended the 1963 International Convention in Haifa to participate in the first election of the Universal House of Justice. At the World Congress in London, she had the honour of giving an address on the topic of “Victories of Pioneers”. In November 1963, she was appointed as an Auxiliary Board member, and

travelled extensively. In 1980, Ruth was appointed to the Continental Board of Counsellors. In this capacity, she travelled to some of the remote parts of the world, guiding and encouraging young Bahá'í communities. She worked for the rights of women and dedicated herself to the establishment of the Guaymi Cultural Centre and radio station in Soloy in the province of Chiriqui, Panama. Just two weeks before her passing, she went to Jamaica to attend the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the first Local Spiritual Assembly there. The Universal House of Justice wrote: “May her devoted and energetic life inspire present and future generations to emulate her shining example.”

### Margot Afnan, Wembley

Margot was born in Germany in 1932. She was 13 when her hometown was carpet-bombed and her family lost their home and belongings. In 1953 Margot accepted the Bahá'í Faith at the National Bahá'í Convention in Germany and married her husband Hassan the following year. They pioneered to

Margo Afnan



Dusseldorf, helping to form the first Local Spiritual Assembly. In 1960, the family moved to London and settled in Brent, where again, Margot served on the first Assembly. She was very hospitable and hosted countless Bahá'í meetings in her home over the years. Above all, Margot was a true homemaker. She gave her family the security and comfort the war had denied her as a child, but refused to indulge them. Instead she taught them the value of the basic things in life, of integrity, faithfulness and hard work.



### **Robert Ayrton, Crouch End**

Robert Ayrton was a widely travelled, literate man who declared his Faith in Bahá'u'lláh in 1991. He was a published writer and an active member of the Royal Overseas League who was keen to promote the Faith in his social circles.

### **Barazandeh Farhadi, Sheffield**

Barazandeh Farhadi was born in Ghazvin in Iran. She worked with the Sepah Bank and, because she was a very trustworthy employee, she was promoted to higher positions several times in her career. In the mid-1970s, she resigned from the Bank and pioneered to Africa. In 1978, she settled in Sheffield. After being diagnosed with cancer two years ago, her only wish was to visit the Holy Shrines for one last time. She was able to make the journey with her sister and nephew in 2001. Baraz loved to teach the Faith to anyone with whom she came in contact. During the last few months of her life in a hospice, she taught the Faith to the nurses, patients and even the chaplains. A few days before she passed away, the chaplain told her nephew, "Baraz is very strong in her Faith and she is very open about her beliefs".

### **Ethel Broom, St Asaph**

Ethel Broom was born and lived in Minnesota, USA, before moving to Sheffield in the 1960s. She heard of the Faith through an advertisement in a local newspaper and attended firesides, hosted by Ernest and Joan Gregory. When her husband retired, they moved to Wales where she lived quietly until her passing. She will be remembered as a staunch believer with a warm and loving personality.

