



*Man's Flight
Through Life Is
Sustained By The
Power Of His
Knowledge*

TO HONOR

NORMA MAE BEASLEY

Like many young American women of her generation, Norma M. Beasley was a war bride. In 1944 she married Willis H. Beasley, Jr., a B-24 tail gunner assigned to the 492nd Bomb Group, recently released from a Swedish internment camp for downed Allied airmen. Following the war, the Beasley's settled in Denver where they raised a family and shared their lives for over sixty-four years. They also shared active participation in the 492nd Bomb Group Association, an organization composed of Willis's former flying mates and dedicated to preserving the history of a storied combat unit. Norma served as the group's parliamentarian and historic preservationist. In the latter role, she assembled and later donated to the Clark Special Collections Branch a vast trove of documents on 492nd BG operations. Norma M. Beasley died on February 3, 2021. She left behind a rich gift of primary sources for cadets and scholars alike.

She was a woman of incredible energy and passion for living . . .

By: Melissa Bradley