



VILLAGES & VOYAGES

HOW YOU ARE CHANGING THE WORLD

Helping around the world

A Life of Giving

Laurice Durant has been a nurse, a missionary and an instructor, and has impacted countless lives.



YOU WILL BE INSPIRED BY LAURICE'S STORY! SHE LOVES TO GIVE! SHE RECENTLY FOUND A NEW WAY TO DONATE TO ADRA THAT ALSO EARNS AN INCOME!

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A Passion for Giving

Laurice Durant is a true giver. She comes by it naturally.

All the beggars in the neighborhood knew Laurice's mother. Because she frequently fed them. She used a rope to lower baskets full of bread, cheese, and whatever they could spare from their third-floor apartment. Just like Laurice, she had a heart for helping those in need.

Laurice's parents were from Lebanon and Syria. They met and married in Egypt, where they raised their five children.

A Change in Life Plan

Laurice attended a convent school and planned to spend her life as a nun.

One day her father took her along to an evangelistic series. She didn't understand the meetings in English. Living in Egypt, she spoke only Arabic and French. But eventually she and her sister both accepted the Adventist message and were baptized.

Laurice and her sister flew to the United States to study and prepare to be missionaries. They wanted to share Jesus with friends and family in Egypt, and with as many others as possible.

When staff asked about their course of study, they said the Bible! A teacher talked them into studying nursing so that they could minister to the whole person as medical missionaries.

Laurice went on to serve as a missionary nurse in Myanmar and Pakistan. Her sister served in Iraq.

A New Path

In her 30s, Laurice returned to the United States and married. The couple lived close to Stanford University, where Laurice earned her master's and doctorate degrees.

Laurice began directing nursing programs. She loved interacting with students and helping however she could.

“As a nurse, I was helping people meet physical needs and spiritual needs when I had the chance. As a teacher, I was able to help students as well,” says Laurice.

Through it all, Laurice was supporting many charitable causes. She has often sent checks for \$25 or so to ADRA and other charities to help people in need.

“I’m not rich,” she says. *“I’m at the bottom of the list financially speaking. But thank God I’m spiritually rich. I’m truly blessed. God has been so good to me!”*

Helping Around the World

Today Laurice is 97 years old. Even though she’s long retired, she continues to give. She is committed to supporting multiple organizations, as well as helping support two food pantries she started with friends in Egypt and South Sudan.

She grieves for people suffering around the world. *“In Turkiye, war-torn areas in Gaza, South*

Sudan, etc...My heart aches, and I have tears in my eyes when I look at the pictures,” says Laurice. *“I wonder how much courage ADRA workers need to face the awful disasters and continue tirelessly their heartrending ministry. Their reward will be great in heaven.”*



Laurice often reflects on a favorite quote:

“The means in our possession may not seem to be sufficient for the work; but if we will move forward in faith, believing in the all-sufficient power of God, abundant resources will open before us.”

—The Desire of Ages, p. 371, E. G. White

Win-Win-Win Giving

Laurice’s living situation has changed in recent years. And giving to all her favorite causes is more difficult.

But she recently found a new way to give. She was able to take funds from a small IRA and turn them straight over to ADRA to create a charitable gift annuity. And she deferred all the taxes she would have had to pay had she taken a distribution for herself.

“Besides helping others, the annuity is helping me too!” says Laurice. *“ADRA will use the money for good. And they are also helping me meet my needs!”*

Laurice will now receive a quarterly annuity payment for the rest of her life.

In true Laurice style, she is using those payments to continue supporting other charitable causes close to her heart! It’s a win-win-win all the way around!

“God has been SO good,” says Laurice. *“That is the only reason I live—to be a blessing to others. Life is not worth living if you only serve yourself.”*



The Girl Who Didn't Give Up

Tendresoa's injuries have not stopped her from striving for a bright future. She hopes to become a doctor and help poor and homeless people. Your financial gifts bring hope and possibilities to families like hers.

How You Changed Her Life...by Providing Lunch

Tendresoa's life changed permanently the day she fell out of a tree. She was such a small child. And broken so badly.

Her young bones knit themselves back together. But the injury resulted in a permanent physical disability.

A few years later, Tendresoa's parents died. She and her four siblings moved in with their grandmother, Memene. She was all the children had left.

Hope in Spite of...Everything

Grandma Memene was a farmer. She did her best to feed and care for the children. She

loved them so much. But it was difficult. Especially in times of drought. The family survived on very little.

But Tendresoa didn't give up on life. Far from it!

Throughout every hard time and every painful day, Tendresoa gave her life to God. She knew He was with her and always would be.

School Under a Tree

Despite her physical challenges, Tendresoa is a strong and courageous girl.

When she was old enough to start school, her grandmother sent her to the village tree with

the other children. They crowded under its shade, chatting and playing while the teacher struggled to keep their attention.

Thunderstorms or stifling heat—the tree was their only classroom.

The 500 village households were surviving, and little else. No one had time, energy, or money to improve the school situation.

You Started the Change

But YOU changed everything!

You sent FOOD to Tendresoa's SCHOOL!

You won't believe the impact you made!

As you'd guess, children started coming to school more often.

It's hard to feel motivated as a hungry child learning under a crowded tree. But if your only chance of having lunch is at school...you go!

Family members like dear Memene are SO grateful. The burden of feeding six hungry mouths is no longer all on her. In her time of struggle, you extended a helping hand.

It gets better!

The parents and family members were no longer struggling to feed everyone. They had help—desperately needed aid provided by donors like you!

With renewed energy, the villagers built a classroom, latrine, and cafeteria! Before, there was just a tree.

The students are HEALTHIER. The teachers are more MOTIVATED. And this village is PROUD of what they have built for their children.



In Tendresoa's village, the "classroom" was simply a tree for many years. After donors like you began a food program at the school, the community rallied to build a classroom, latrine, and cafeteria.

Because of your generous support, this community was able to invest in the future.

Thank you so much!

Your Impact on Her Future

Tendresoa is 15 years old now. She LOVES school! She tries never to miss a day of class except when her back hurts too much to bear.

She was so proud when she passed the exam to enter secondary school!

Tendresoa hopes to become a doctor someday. She wants to

help poor and homeless people. What a beautiful young woman.

She and her siblings (and even grandma) have a greatly improved quality of life. All because of donors like YOU.

When you choose to partner with ADRA, through a financial investment now or a gift planned for the future, it has real results. Results like Tendresoa growing up strong and educated. Thank you for helping families in need.



Scot Coppock,
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If you are thinking about your legacy, please reach out. Scot Coppock is available to answer your questions. He can help you find a plan that perfectly complements your goals. **Call 1.800.424.ADRA (2372)** or email **PlannedGiving@ADRA.org**.