



Barbara Jean Peterson

May 30, 1929 - July 8, 2017

Barbara Jean Peterson passed away peacefully in her home on Saturday, July 8th 2017, but will live on in legacy for those of whom Jean's brilliant spirit touched. Among her lifetime of achievements, Jean was a devoted wife and mother, adored Nana, steadfast friend and inspirational teacher.

Born in Amarillo, Texas on May 29, 1929, Jean migrated to Manson when she was 4 and Manson was still a frontier town. Those were not easy times, but Jean helped raise her younger sister and brother with a determined grit that would define her character. As a young woman, her intelligence, integrity and charisma bloomed. Jean was Valedictorian of Manson High School's class of 1947, a Rainbow Advisor and the first Manson Apple Blossom Queen to lead the parade (Queen Jean was a role that would stick). Her bright, curious mind took her to the University of Washington to study science and her heart brought her back again to Manson to marry her childhood sweetheart, Dale Peterson.

Dale and Jean worked hard to carve out a home and orchard on Manson's farthest edges and started their own family. Enriched by their hospitality, joyous memories and wild beauty, their "homeplace" became a destination held in spiritual reverence by family and friends. When her children were school age, Jean earned her teacher's certificate and taught high school chemistry and biology in Manson and Lake Chelan where she achieved the levels of respected infamy that result in being stopped in the streets decades later by former students. "You were my favorite teacher. [Healthy pause.] Tough... but fair." Dale and Jean were solid fixtures in the Manson community and frequently celebrated life with their tightly knit social circle. She was also a prolific cook, inspired gardener, savvy bridge partner, avid reader, stylish shopper and occasional skinny dipper.

Jean eventually retired from teaching to help Dale with their growing orchard and the two enjoyed traveling across the globe on various agricultural expeditions and spending time with their grandchildren. Her family dinners involved multiple generations gathered in appreciation for one another and lively discussions on an unlimited range of topics. Her overall interest in life provided constant conditioning of her mental agility, which she would

feistily evidence if deemed necessary. After Dale passed away, Jean continued to run the orchard until the very last of her days with the same tenacity and focus that powered her throughout her amazing life and drew us all to her.

Jean was preceded in death by her husband, Dale and her son, Arthur Bradley Peterson. She is survived by her daughter, Kim Peterson Ozolin and her son, Allen Brooke Peterson, as well as her grandchildren: Mara, Erik, Brett, Katie, Kelsey and Kevin, great-grandchildren: Maksims, Charles and Benecio, and also by Jose Alejo, who was her longtime orcharding partner and honorary member of the clan.

The family will be holding a celebration of Jean's life at the Lake Chelan Senior Center on Saturday, July 29th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. All that counted Jean as a friend are invited to come share your favorite Jean memories over a glass of Pinot Gris with ice cubes.

In lieu of flowers or contributions (and in recognition of Jean's independent spirit), please make a donation to a cause important to you.

Events

JUL **Service** 11:00AM - 01:00PM

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Chelan Senior Center

534 E. Trow Avenue, Chelan, WA, US, 98816

Comments



“ I know this is late but did want to remember Jean. She was a special teacher, she taught science while I attended school in Manson. Over the years I have often thought of her and the relationship our class had with Jean. She will be missed by many. God Bless

Larry Morse - October 22, 2017 at 09:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



donna campbell - July 28, 2017 at 01:16 AM



“ Jean with one of her favorite people. Thank you so much for posting

gale courtney - July 28, 2017 at 09:19 PM



“ This was a picture I took at a very fun Christmas party we had at Alice's house. Turkey, stuffing and all the fixings, including good wine! The Deeterings were there and Gene Barkley {the artist} stopped by; we had the best time for hours!

donna campbell - July 28, 2017 at 11:10 PM



“ Kim, Brooke, and family--

We enjoyed having Jean as our Manson neighbor. She cared about beauty and taught us about the plants (and weeds!) in our neighborhood. We will miss her advice and caring. One of our favorite memories is sharing a few sunset boat rides with her. Her love of Lake Chelan and appreciation of the beauty of the hills and mountains touched our hearts. We'll remember the twinkle in her eyes as we toasted the evening with a glass of wine. She is irreplaceable.

Dick and Kathy Myers

Kathy Myers - July 19, 2017 at 01:32 PM



“ Dear Kim, Brooke and Families;
I loved having Jean as our biology teacher at Chelan High School our senior year (Class of 1970). She kept it interesting and did not have patience for students goofing off, which we certainly tried to do on a regular basis. Your mother was also a great host whenever we came to the house to visit our classmate Kim. A great teacher and an even greater lady! My sincere condolences Kim & Brooke.
Sincerely,
Randy Kelley

Randy Kelley - July 18, 2017 at 10:54 AM



“ Dear Brooke and Peterson Family,
I didn't know your Mom well, but am impressed with all that she accomplished in her life. Dale was a wonderful customer of Tilly Equipment. He and John Senseney had a special relationship in business dealings.

Its been almost 38 years since we sold our business, but memories of serving your family will live forever.

Sincerely,

Earl Tilly

Earl Tilly - July 17, 2017 at 04:30 PM



“ Debbie Moller lit a candle in memory of Barbara Jean Peterson



Debbie Moller - July 14, 2017 at 11:24 PM