



Betty Arlene Johansen

May 5, 1922 - August 30, 2016

Betty A. Johansen joined her beloved husband in the celestial realms when she passed from this physical world on Monday evening, August 29, 2016.

Born in Somers, Montana in 1922, Betty's childhood was spent on Flathead Lake and later in the small lumber town of Bonner, Montana. She graduated from Missoula High School in 1940 and attended a year of business school in Spokane, WA. She returned to Bonner to work as a receptionist at the Anaconda Lumber Company where she met Chris Johansen at a dance and they married 6 months later in 1942.

Betty was a war wife as her husband spent two years in the South Pacific during WWII. She gave birth to 3 daughters while living in the small rural town of Reserve, MT. Moving to Great Falls she became librarian at the Great Falls High School followed by secretary for federal programming at the Great Falls School District.

Betty retired at the age of 67 and became a breast cancer survivor while enjoying traveling, Elks, and Sons of Norway activities along with continual church involvement at Faith Lutheran Church in Great Falls.

Betty became a widow in 1993 and eventually moved to Washington state to be closer to her family, enjoying her summers at Lake Chelan and her winters in Wenatchee. She was an avid walker, and enjoyed reading books, bird and wildlife watching, growing flowers, and watching her favorite TV programs, Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune and Dancing With the Stars. Living in Washington, she became an avid Seahawks fan and donned her Seahawks attire for every game.

Betty's generous and humble spirit helped to mold the lives of many. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Richard and Gale Krum, her 3 daughters, Marilyn Johansen, Hannah Johansen, Sandra Johansen, 4 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren as well as her extended family, Ned Verellen, Jeri Payne and Chloe Corlett.

A small family memorial was held at The Chelan Lutheran Church in Chelan, WA.
Donations in Betty's honor can be made to the following:

Nathanael Lutheran Church
Cemetery Maintenance
Mary Sampsen
Dagmar MT 59219.

Events

SEP	Service	11:00AM
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	Lake Chelan Lutheran Church	
	216 W. Nixon, Chelan, WA, US, 98816	

Comments



“ I am so sorry to hear of Betty's passing. I knew Betty through her work with federal programs here in Great Falls. She was a wonderful lady who was always smiling, interested, and helpful.

When my daughter was about to be born it was Betty who called me out of a meeting and told me to get to the hospital ASAP. When I suggested it could be a false labor, Betty gently "slapped" me over the phone and told me to get moving which I wisely did. My daughter was born shortly after my hospital arrival and Betty and I shared many a laugh over my nearly missing the event. Did I mention she was also wise ? May God bless Betty and be with her family.

Kent Graves

Kent Graves - September 13, 2016 at 11:30 AM



“ To Betty's daughters, I am so sorry for the loss of your mother. No matter our age, it's always tough to lose a mom. My parents knew Chris and Betty from Reserve. When I was a senior in high school in 1968, my mother and I had to travel from Glasgow to Great Falls once a month to see a doctor. We would spend the night at Chris and Betty's house, and she always made us feel so welcome. I will never forget her hospitality and how sweet and caring she was to me and my mom. Kay Johnson (daughter of George and Alma Johnson)

Kay Johnson - September 12, 2016 at 12:31 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Grandma Jo's passing! She was a beautiful lady! I remember spending time at her place making legs a & playing games! It was always fun to spend time with her & Grandpa Jo before he passed. She truly led a life to be admired & she will never be forgotten! With love - Stacie

Stacie Wellman - September 04, 2016 at 07:24 PM



“ Dear Marilyn, Hannah, Sandra and your families, I met your mother at my wedding on New Years Eve of 1960. I was one of the GTA family with Chris and having picked NYE for our wedding many of the field men showed up with their wives, our first meeting which was the beginning of a wonderful friendship as we went to Faith Lutheran as well. We left Great Falls in 1981 but will always remember your parents as wonderful loving beautiful examples for all to take note of. You were very lucky girls to grow up under their love and guidance. I still keep in touch with Helen Madeen, 95, if you remember her, the receptionist at GTA, and another beautiful lady that I admired. Our condolences to you and your families. The thought of she and Chris together again leaves us with another beautiful memory.

Many Blessings,
Marilyn and Dick Hensley

Marilyn Hensley - September 03, 2016 at 01:24 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Betty's passing. I replaced her at the School District before she retired. I worked with her for about 3 months part time before she retired. She was a special lady and so nice to work with. May she rest in peace with her husband Chris.
Ethel Sutej

Ethel Sutej - September 03, 2016 at 11:13 AM



“ Dear Family,
I am deeply saddened to hear of Betty's (Grandma Jo) passing. Chris and her were my Godparents and I couldn't ask for better people to be there for support and love. When she moved to Washington we lost contact even though I tried several times. While she was in Great Falls we spend many times together. She opened her doors to Wes and I when I was in labor for 12 days and the doctors said I couldn't leave Great Falls (we lived in Fort Benton). My kids remember going to her place and making lefse, playing games and just sitting visiting with her as she always made them feel so loved. Chris walked me down the aisle my first wedding, and she walked me down the aisle the second time as Chris had recently passed away. I will never forget her and them and never stop loving them both!

Debbie Nichols Wellman - September 02, 2016 at 09:32 AM