



Ruth Elaine Pingrey

July 3, 1927 - February 10, 2017

Ruth E. Pingrey, 89, of Chelan, died Feb. 10, 2017. She was born July 3, 1927 at Wapato, Wash. and later moved to Selah, Wash. where she graduated from Selah High School the year of 1945. After receiving college degrees from WSU and CWU, Ruth was an elementary teacher for many years in Chelan. When she retired, Ruth devoted her time to volunteer work... daily elementary playground supervisor, Red Cross Blood drawings, Hospice, High Five the Clown, Santa's helper at Christmas, responsible for the flags being up downtown Chelan on all special days, and honored her choir angels yearly as a special part of the

family Christmas scene. Specific highlights of her life were being the daughter of Robert and Clara Rodman, wife of Robert Pingrey, sister of Lois Ogburn and Richard Rodman, mother of Mary (Skip) Boyd and Scott Pingrey, grandmother of Nathan (Courtney) Boyd, Eric (Kim) Boyd, Greg (Danielle) Boyd, Art (Sandra) Pingrey; and great-grandmother of Parker Boyd, Isabella Pingrey, Morgan Boyd, and Evan and Emmerson Boyd.

Mrs. Pingrey produced the Red, White, and Blue Special for Public Television with the help of her elementary students. In the year of 2002 the Chelan Centennial Park was dedicated to Ruth Pingrey.

Ruth was a past matron of Eastern Star, past president of Delta Kappa Gamma- Zeta Chapter, member of the Eagles, Red Hatters, and Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, brother, and sister.

Visitation will be Friday, Feb. 17, at Precht Rose Chapel from 2-6 p.m.

Graveside services at Fraternal Cemetery will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, followed by Ruth's favorite desserts and a reception at the Lake Chelan Eagles at 11:30 a.m., with a showing of the Red, White and Blue Special. Please wear your red, white and blue.

Memorials may be to the Wenatchee Valley Humane Society or the charity of your choice in her memory.

Cemetery Details

Chelan Fraternal Cemetery

815 N. Bradley St.
Chelan, WA 98816

Previous Events

Service

FEB **18**. 11:00 AM (PT)

Chelan Fraternal Cemetery
815 N. Bradley St.
Chelan, WA 98816

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth Elaine Pingrey*

January 29, 2023 at 08:49 AM



“ *A great lady. She stood out as a kind and respected member of the community, evident soon after I arrived in town as reporter at the "Lake Chelan Mirror" (1989-92), and personally always gracious and respectful towards a newcomer like me. I heard of her impact on her students from parents' respectful comments and from stories of the "faces" her students made and which she posted, as well as the patriotism she taught. Ruth made it into a story or two I wrote, but the respect the community had for her and the impact she had on her students had put her on Chelan's radar screen long before that.*

*Jon Nuxoll
Eugene, Oregon*

Jon Nuxoll - March 06, 2017 at 10:43 PM

KG

“ Ruth made a difference in so many peoples lives. As a teacher she had high expectations and truely cared about each of her students. I started teaching at MOE a few years before her retirement and was so in awe of her teaching style. Boy, did her students know she meant business, but at the same time they knew she cared. In addiition to the required curriculum she instilled a respect for our country and each other.

After retirement she continued to give to the community and never let Fritz or I go by without a caring word or visit. We thought of Ruth as a friend and we will always remember her.

I know her service will definitely be a celebration of her life. God bless this special lady who lived and modeled what she believed in.

Kitty and Fritz Griffith

Kitty Griffith - February 18, 2017 at 09:07 AM

ML

“ What a life and wonderful impact Mrs. Pingrey (although much later in life she told me "It's just Ruth") had on so many of us that were fortunate enough to know her as a teacher and friend here in Chelan. I was in her class of hummmm.....73? in third grade and remember it fondly, although I'm sure I received some needed "correction" from her that year. She taught us to "BE PROUD!" and we earned our little statues with the apple man and flag to show for it. We also made the choir cut-outs that were always hanging in she and Bob's yard at Christmas for many years. She was so proud of her students and made us all feel the same. Guess where we all learned the pledge of allegiance and how to fold a flag PERFECTLY? !! I can still fold a flag and brings up a fun memory I must tell. My wife and our two children were able to move back to Chelan just prior to them starting school in 1995 and we built a home here- of course it had to have a flagpole- guess who raised the flag at our new home for the very first time? Ruth had tears of pride and joy as she pulled the rope- I'll never forget that. So wonderful that even my wife and our children got to experience her pride. Not long after as she was still taking sole responsibility for putting up the flags in town for patriotic holidays, I was able to help her a few times- what an honor. She rode in the car and showed me exactly where each flag was to be put up .
Ruth was also a wonderful, kind , and caring neighbor to my Grandparents and Parents
on Nixon street . Oh- one last fun memory with her- not long after college I was involved in a rather serious motorcycle accident and had to spend a month or two recuperating at my parents home during the summer just a couple doors down - she would make afternoon visits and bring a cold beverage while I was out in the sun on a lounge (I couldn't walk- broken feet/arm) How fun is that with your old third grade teacher!

Mark Lippincott

Mark Lippincott - February 17, 2017 at 06:17 PM

WL

She was a grand lady! Loved seeing her around town welcoming everyone!

Wendy Loty - February 18, 2017 at 02:52 PM

FC

“ *I first met Mrs. Pingrey when I was the gardener at Campbell's resort. One fall she asked me if I would like to have some Canna tubers. She gave me two boxes of them which I planted and they reproduced one thousand fold so I began giving them away. While reflecting on her obit I imagined that somewhere there must be fields of her beautiful flowers just blooming away. Not a bad way to remember a great lady. Thanks for the memories Mrs.Pingrey. God love you and happy journey.*

Floyd Copeland

"Like a flower she blessed our life with her own."

Floyd Copeland - February 16, 2017 at 04:41 PM

RA

“ *Mary, Skip, and family:
Kay and I send you our condolences, thoughts, and prayers at the loss of your Mom. Although I didn't know your Mom well, I remember how pleasant and kind she was when she would briefly drop by the office after she had retired. We never forget the love of our parents and we hope your good memories of her sustain you during your grief.*

Rick & Kay Acosta

Rick Acosta - February 16, 2017 at 08:24 AM

“ Having Mrs. Pingrey as my 4th grade teacher was a tremendous GIFT! Not one minute of class time was wasted knowing her legacy would be left in us all. We began the year caring more about who had the newest Nike velcro shoes and which boy/girl you could chase at recess to ending the year standing taller, prouder and molded towards an unwavering Love of Country, Love for each other, Love for our fellow Americans and the belief that our life had significance in this world. We wore our American Creed shirts with honor, memorized more Constitutional documents than we ever knew existed, were made to be "extra special" when we could sit in the Loft desks above the classroom, had our wooden faces hung proudly on the tree outside her home at Christmas and learned to mourn both the sweetness and loss of life as we said good-bye to our JOY Filled, Friend to everyone, classmate Katie Rolfs. Mrs. Pingrey was strict, liked to joke, loved to laugh, had eyes that could see everywhere at all times, was adamant about reading, instilled the value of sacrifice, taught diligence and rooted us towards an anchor of life to NEVER GIVE UP!

A few years back, I was visiting Chelan, running the River Walk Trail when I saw up ahead a steady shuffle, hunched forward, American Flags waving from the basket of her walker, herself bathed in red, white and blue and my heart recognized her immediately. Not wanting to miss the opportunity to be her student again I slowed my run to a walk and finished the loop at her side. We Reminiscd, updated each other on current life, laughed and she spoke of the pride she had looking out her condo window at the American flag placed below her in her honor. A a walk I will forever cherish.

Despite the limitations of mobility her heart lead the way and she taught me the lessons she spoke so many times.... Never Give Up, Never Quit and Live a Life that Matters!! Mrs. Pingrey, you made a lasting difference in my life. I will see and hear you in every star and stripe in this country. Thank You. To the Boyd and Pingrey families, what a legacy she has left you! Thinking and Praying for you as you celebrate and miss your "one of a kind" mom and grandmother.

Carmen (Lamkin) Dooley, CHS 1992

Carmen Dooley - February 15, 2017 at 01:19 AM

Mary Lange

“ *Out of all of the teachers I have had through the years, Mrs Pingrey was by far my most favorite. She loved her country and celebrated the importance of our freedoms with her students. I learned so much about patriotism from her in 3rd grade. She was truly a blessing to teaching and impacted thousands of students over the years that she taught. What a beautiful life she lived! -*

Mary Lange - February 14, 2017 at 09:52 PM

LN

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Lake Chelan Online News - February 13, 2017 at 03:47 PM