



Juanita F Thorpe

March 5, 1927 - April 15, 2015

Juanita Frieda Thorpe, of Bellingham, WA, passed away on Wednesday, April 15, 2015. She was born March 5, 1927 in the parsonage of St. John's Lutheran Church in Sherwood, Ohio, and was the eldest daughter and the fourth of nine children to be born to Rev. George and Clara (Schroeder) Maassel.

She attended Ridgeville High School where she played the clarinet, ran track, and was a cheerleader for the basketball team. Juanita graduated as the salutatorian of the Class of 1945, which boasted 19 members and gave a speech titled "Dreams Become Reality." She left the family home in 1945 to enter nurses training at the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana and graduated with her Registered Nurse diploma. Here she met, Oliver E. Thorpe, Jr, who was attending Indiana Tech, also in Ft Wayne. They fell in love and on January 27, 1951, were married by her father at his church in Napoleon, Ohio. She was a dedicated and caring nurse for more than 20 years.

Juanita and Oliver lived in Indiana, Virginia, New York, Maine, Wisconsin, Delaware, and finally Washington where they were members of Grace Lutheran Church in Blaine. Juanita enjoyed family vacations, especially their trip to Disney World to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, trips to Mexico arranged by their son, Dan, and family reunions. Juanita was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Paul, Lester, and Norman Maassel, her sister, Lois Wesche; and pets Pretty Bird, Race, Frosty, and Venus.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Oliver; her cat Athena; daughter Pat (Butch) Hinchey; son Daniel Thorpe; brothers Delmar and Richard Maassel; sisters, Ruth McClain and Miriam Neumann; and numerous nieces and nephews. Juanita lived a quiet life centered on her love for Jesus, her family, and her pets. She was a nurturing and loving nurse, a devoted wife and mother, and a gentle Christian friend. She is resting in the arms of her Savior, already welcomed by many of her family and friends. The rest of us look forward to that day of reunion when we are all blessed by God's grace.

Memorials may be made to Grace Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 1646, Blaine, WA, 98231.

A graveside service will be conducted by Pastor Aaron Zuch at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at Greenacres Memorial Park.

Events

APR 21 **Graveside Service** 01:00PM

Greenacres Memorial Park
5700 Northwest Drive, Ferndale, WA, US, 98248

Comments



“ Peggy Morrison lit a candle in memory of Juanita F Thorpe



Peggy Morrison - April 17, 2015 at 02:03 PM



“ Al And Elaine Cortez lit a candle in memory of Juanita F Thorpe



Al and Elaine Cortez - April 17, 2015 at 11:45 AM



“ Guest lit a candle in memory of Juanita F Thorpe



guest - April 16, 2015 at 02:39 PM



“ Pat is following this tribute.

Pat - April 16, 2015 at 10:38 AM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Pat - April 16, 2015 at 10:37 AM



“ Sending heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Oliver, Pat and the family. I was fortunate in getting to know Juanita during my visits with her and Oliver over the past couple of years. She always welcomed my visits even though I'm sure there were times she wasn't feeling the best. A very sweet and gentle lady and always a pleasure to talk to. I'll certainly miss those visits but will remember her fondly.

Lenore Onyon - April 16, 2015 at 01:38 PM



“ Ollie, Pat and Dan, I am so sorry to learn of your loss. I had the pleasure of meeting Juanita a couple of times when she lived in Delaware. I remember her as a very sweet and caring lady. I share her love of animals and still smile when I look at the picture of her with the llama that visited her at the assisted living facility. I will keep your family in my thoughts and prayers as you go through this sad time.

Peggy Morrison - April 17, 2015 at 02:02 PM



“ Ollie, Pat and Dan: You are in our thoughts and prayers. She was a kind and loving sister and I will miss her letters and notes that she faithfully sent...our one and only constant way to keep in touch with the miles separating us. May God be your source of comfort and peace. Ruth

Ruth McClain - April 17, 2015 at 07:57 PM



“ So very sad for your loss. May you find comfort in the grace of warm memories. Courtney Bolin-Walker

Courtney - April 20, 2015 at 01:25 PM



“ Pat: Please accept our heartfelt condolences. We will keep your family in our thoughts and prayers. J.R. and Claudia Ortega.

Rene - April 21, 2015 at 12:52 PM