



Donnalee Durham

September 6, 1935 - July 16, 2010

Donnalee Durham, 74, of Wenatchee, died Friday, July 16, 2010, at Central Washington Hospital. She was a lifetime resident of the Wenatchee Valley. Donna Batdorf was born September 6, 1935, to Donald and Zelma Batdorf and was raised in East Wenatchee. After high school, Donna studied music at Wenatchee Valley College and became a piano instructor at the age of 18. On June 8, 1955, she married Merle R. Durham in Wenatchee, where they lived and raised their family. She taught piano lessons to hundreds of children, retiring in 2009, after 56 years. She loved her students, and they her.

Survivors include a daughter, Leslie (Tracy) Pilkinton of East Wenatchee; a son, Daniel (Claudia) Durham of San Jose, CA; a brother, Michael (Linda) Batdorf of Wenatchee; a grandson, Jordan Pilkinton; and a granddaughter, Rebecca Durham. She was preceded in death by her husband, Merle R. Durham, in August, 2009.

At her request, No Services will be held. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements by Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dan Durham lit a candle in memory of
Donnalee Durham*



Dan Durham - April 30, 2014 at 12:29 PM



“ *I was a student of Mrs. Durham for 7 years before she retired. She was the greatest piano teacher, and I was saddened to hear that she passed away. She was always joyful, helpful, and sweet to be around. She inspired me to continue learning piano, even when i felt like quitting. Now, my new piano teacher talks about how well I was taught. The morning before I heard the news, I was planning on stopping by her house and visiting her again. Often we brought her cookies, she was always so appreciative of them. My sympathies to her family. We will keep her family in our prayers. Our hearts are saddened. Mrs. Durham will be greatly missed. In Christ,
Jacob Specht and Family.*

Jacob Specht - July 27, 2010 at 08:52 PM



“ *Candle lit by*



Susan Gillin - July 25, 2010 at 09:07 AM



“ *My daughter, now a senior in high school, had taken piano lessons from Donna since she was in the 3rd grade. She was very fond of Donna and I know Donna really liked her. Donna had such a wonderful, wry sense of humor! I took piano from Donna myself for a year and remember how Merle would always bring her an iced coffee drink when he came home from work. He was so good to her, and they were such a great pair. Merle and Donna lived only a couple blocks from us and we would often see them out walking. It was such a shame to lose Merle a year ago, and now Donna too. We miss them both! Our sincere sympathies to the family. -- Susan and Gary Gillin*

Susan Gillin - July 25, 2010 at 09:06 AM



“ *We are sorry to lose our classmate, neighbor and friend Donnalee. We have been neighbors on Madison St. for 7 years, and got re-acquainted with Donna and Merle after we settled here. Donna and Merle would often stop and visit on their walk by our home. We were both classmates of Donnalee at Wenatchee High School, graduating in 1953. We extend our deepest sympathy to the Family. Alex & Bonita McLean*

Alex & Bonita (Law) McLean - July 21, 2010 at 05:26 PM