



Eleanor I. Peter

September 16, 1921 - December 20, 2014

Eleanor (Ellie) I. Thornton Peter was born to George W. and Myrtle Bartholomew Thornton on September 16, 1921, in a log house built by her father and uncle on a homestead in the Aeneas Valley of Okanogan County, WA. She was at first home schooled; later she attended a one-room country school, and she eventually graduated from Tonasket High School at age 16. She lived happily in the log home, which had no electricity and no indoor plumbing. As a Depression Era child, her family had no money for her to attend college or anything else, but at age 21, (1942) she moved to Wenatchee, WA, to attend nurses training at the Deaconess Hospital. She earned this by working for three years for the hospital 6½ days per week, 51 weeks of the year, receiving room, board, training, and an occasional \$5 spending money. She and her classmates completed training just in time to meet each other's brothers as they returned from active military service during WWII. She married one of her classmate's brothers, Joseph B. (Bernie) Peter, and her brother married another one of her classmates. She and Bernie were married for 64 years before he passed away the day after her birthday in 2011. They were married in 1947, setting up home in Entiat in a small apartment in a housing project located near the Columbia River. In 1951 Bernie bought his mother's orchard in the Entiat Valley, and they lived there until 2011, when they moved to Colonial Vista in Wenatchee.

After some severe health episodes in 2012, Ellie moved to facilities of Crista

Senior Living of Shoreline, WA, where she lived until she passed away peacefully in her sleep on December 20, 2014.

Professionally she was a Registered Nurse and worked for many years each at Parkside Nursing Home and in pediatrics at the Wenatchee Valley Clinic. In Entiat, she was active in community affairs, for example, serving several terms on the Cemetery Board, and she was a 65 year active member of the Entiat Federated Church. But it was how she served is what set her apart. She believed in the value and dignity of all human beings. She was cheerful, positive, caring, uplifting, and encouraging. This flowed out spontaneously from her strong Christian faith. Her positive influence, especially on her family, was profound.

Within the family she was the last of her generation, and was preceded in death by her husband, Bernie, her sister Alta Thornton Swenson, her brother, Leslie Thornton, and numerous brothers and sisters-in-law. She is survived by her three sons and three daughters-in-law, Paul (Jeanine) Peter of Covington (Sumner), WA, Lyle (Beate) Peter of Edmonds, WA, and Donald (JoAnn) Peter of Des Moines, WA, nine grandchildren, four grandchildren-in-law, seven great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews and their families.

A memorial service will be held on January 31, 2015, at 1:00 PM, at the Entiat Valley Church (formerly Entiat Federated Church) in Entiat WA. Friends who wish may give a donation in her name to the Entiat Valley Church. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 31. 1:00 PM (PT)

Entiat Valley Church
2150 Entiat Way
98822
Entiat, WA

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Eleanor I. Peter



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - January 28, 2015 at 03:55 PM

RH

“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



Roger Holsen - July 31, 2015 at 04:42 PM

JD

“ To Ellie and an amazing generation,

I remember fondly the many trips we made to the Entiat Valley when I was a kid to visit Grandma and all of Mom's relatives. It is hard to believe that they have all passed and that we are now the senior generation, oh how time flies. They were an amazing generation, strong, independent and self reliant tested by time and strengthened by adversity. I only hope that some of those qualities have rubbed off on me. Ellie's passing represents the end of that generation in our family. I miss their strength, independence and all of their amazing stories. They unselfishly worked to make the world a better place, something that we have all prospered from and what greater tribute could there be than that.

*Rest in peace
Jeff Dineen*

Jeff Dineen - January 31, 2015 at 10:44 AM

V(

“ *Bernie and Ellie were both awesome people! and now they are reunited in heaven. they were very dear friends to my father Jay Rogers, and my mother Georgia Rogers.*

Valerie Miller (Rogers) - January 26, 2015 at 02:25 AM

ET

“ *We knew Eleanor as a wonderful nurse assisting Dr. Kraft for our children. She and Bernie were also customers of our farm & orchard equipment business and they were wonderful supporters during my political life. We appreciated them both. Sincerely, Earl and Barbara Tilly*

Earl Tilly - December 24, 2014 at 05:41 PM

RH

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



Roger Holsen - December 24, 2014 at 10:45 AM

JK

“ So sorry to learn of Eleanor's death. She worked for many years as a nurse and best friend to my husband Warren Kraft and actually made his hectic life as a Pediatrician manageable. He considered her a friend and visited her at Colonial Vista before she moved to the Seattle area. Sadly Dr. Kraft died early in November. Let's hope they meet in Heaven and Ellie can keep him in line by saying, "Now Doctor.....!"

Joan Kraft

Joan Kraft - December 23, 2014 at 05:04 PM

 Janet
Searles

“ We moved to Entiat in 1971 and our orchard bordered Bernie and Ellie's. Ellie was a wonderful woman who always had a smile for us kids when we'd ride our Honda 90s through the orchards. I am sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. Janet (Moore) Searles

Janet Searles - December 23, 2014 at 03:23 PM

GW

“ Paul, Lyle, and Don,
I loved your folks and have many memories of them and Wolf family gatherings. Your mom was always so good about keeping me up on family news. She had a good and caring heart.
Love from your cousin Gini

Gini (Wolf) Wortman - December 23, 2014 at 10:41 AM

MR

I worked with Ellie for many years in Pediatrics. She was a wonderful, kind and patient woman. She and I once made a discovery about our families early years. Her dad kept journals and in one in said Gen and Lepha came over for butter today. That was in the Aeneas Valley. Lepha was my mom and Gen was my aunt. What a small world. She is missed by many people I know. Sorry I won't be here for her memorial but she has often been in my thoughts.

Myrna Regan

Myrna Regan - January 25, 2015 at 03:34 PM