



Grace V. Krueger

January 2, 1918 - June 5, 2017

The youngest of nine children, Grace Veronica Krueger, died at age ninety-nine in Wenatchee, Washington, on June 5, 2017, after a long-life of laughter, humility, honesty, magnanimity and generosity. Born in Walla Walla to Joe and Mary Martin, Irish American dryland wheat farmers, she joined six sisters and two brothers at a time their mother had the flu during the influenza pandemic of 1918 which killed more people than WWI. The doctor, terrified that all of these children might lose their mother, ordered that baby Grace stay with relatives so all efforts could focus on Mary's recovery. A nurturing aunt took in the fragile baby, creating an incubator out of warmed bricks, soft blankets and a dresser drawer. Against the odds, Grace and her mother survived, and Grace rejoined the family a year later. She worked with her family raising chickens, cows and steers and growing and harvesting wheat.

A graduate of Cheney Normal (thanks to financial help from her older sisters), Grace taught grade school in Pomeroy, Washington and later at St. Joseph's Catholic School, before she and her husband, Robert, purchased and the family ran the Corral Drive-In on Grant Road in East Wenatchee. Gracie was the heart of the business, and she engaged with employees and customers with laughter and serial, infectious smiles. She credited being the youngest of nine, over-loved by her sisters and brothers, for her sunny and positive disposition.

Gracie leaves behind her children, Walt Krueger (Kathy), Kathleen Griggs (Marcus), Christine Krueger (Christopher Guntermann), and Pamela Talbot, grandchildren, Heather and Sean Porter, Kate Krueger (Andrew Huffer) and Michael Krueger, Jim Guntermann (Sarah) and Tony Guntermann (Kelly), Blake Talbot (Leanne) and Chase Talbot, Alison Talbot (Jeff McDonald) and great grandchildren, Evan and Ava Porter, Jasper McDonald, Taylor Talbot, and Paul and Willa Huffer. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, and her brothers and sisters, Mike Martin, Jim Martin, Mary Schreck, Alicia Martin, Ruth Newman, Kay Shelton, Helen Gwinn and Roseanne Schneller, her son-in-law Dr. Steve Talbot and granddaughter Mikayla Grace Talbot. She also leaves many loved nieces, nephews and cousins in Washington, Iowa, California and Ireland.

Viewing will be from 2 to 5 PM, Sunday, June 11th, at Jones and Jones-Betts. Interment will be at Wenatchee Cemetery on June 12th, and a celebration of Grace's life will be held on Saturday, July 22nd at St. Joseph's Church at 1:00 PM with an Irish wake to follow at Chateau Faire Le Pont.

Cemetery Details

Wenatchee City Cemetery

1804 N. Western
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 11. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Jones & Jones ~ Betts Funeral Home
302 9thStreet
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 662-1561
dante@jonesjonesbetts.com

Graveside Service

JUN 12. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (PT)

Wenatchee City Cemetery
1804 N. Western
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Tribute Wall

DB

“ We were very sorry to hear Grace had passed. What a wonderful life she had and what a special lady she was. Our thoughts & prayers are with the children & grand children. Grace has a very special place with our Lord !!



Dick & Cindy Babst - June 14, 2017 at 02:56 PM

CB

“ Dear family all, we lived across Dakata St. on Miller St, from Gracie and Robert for some years in the middle 70ies. Gracie was the best neighbor ever and we all loved her. She was always cheerful and happy to visit with and always up and busy with her grown children and the arrival of grandchildren. I had the honor of having both Sean and Heather in school at Washington and still remember the year Sean was chosen to attend Space Camp in Florida. My oh my that was a special event. Robert was also a Theta Chi from WSU and how my son loved to take his Theta Chi brothers over to meet Robert and give the special handshake. Happy memories of a dear lady--also best friend with an old time friend---Helen barnes. Many happy memories---and many blessings this lady shared with so many. Love and prayers for peace and great reunions in heaven. Our love---the Earl nelson---Connie (Earl) Paige, Blake and Jill---
Connie Bean

Constance Busigin Bean - June 13, 2017 at 04:38 PM

DM

“ Oh, how I loved Gracie & her sweet husband, Krueger! I worked for them both at the Corral Drive-In and loved every minute of it! It was a wonderful time in my life and I often revisit the drive-in in my dreams, with Gracie & Krueger and all the others in attendance. Gracie was a mom to us all who worked for her; her kind, gentle spirit was just what we needed as teenagers & young adults. Rest peacefully sweet Gracie; you truly made a difference in your life to so many. Until we meet again...

Denise (Foubert) Mays - June 07, 2017 at 01:15 PM

PT

Denise,

I thank you for your kind words of your boss' Krueger and our boss my mom Gracie. She really treated all her employees as her own kids. As her daughter I had no privileges above hired help. Actually we hired close friends and by word of mouth. So many of family friends were employed by my parents.

One of my childhood friends came to the burial June 13, and shared her memories, saying Gracie was a big part of her growing up with me, and my mom allowed her to work at The Corral Drive-In. Wow! Another friend of mine came and shared how Gracie wanted the kiss on the lips, not the cheek, it's an old fashioned way obviously.

G.M. Gracie has been a huge cathartic part of my kids life. I'm thankful for all our years together.

Pamela Krueger Talbot

pamela talbot - June 14, 2017 at 03:00 AM