



Ruby Robbins

February 8, 1918 - July 24, 2014

Ruby Melton Shipman Robbins

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Ruby Robbins, 96, of Wenatchee, WA, died on Thursday, July 24, 2014. She was born on February 8, 1918, in Shelbyville, AR, to Elmer and Minnie Tatum Melton. She was raised on her parents' farm and attended school at Violet Hill, AR. In the late 1930's, she married Roy "Blackie" Shipman and they drove with friends to Washington State to look for work in the fruit industry. When war was declared in 1941, they packed up their car and infant daughter to return to the farm in Arkansas under blackout conditions. Many trips were made over the years between Washington State and the farm to help her parents with planting and harvesting and many other jobs that keep a farm self-sufficient. By 1944, two daughters joined them on their trips and they explored all the different roads and attractions along the way, including Route 66. Ruby found waitressing jobs and began many years doing a job she truly loved. Ruby worked in several orchards (Gensinger, Ox-Team), at Van Well Nursery, and as a waitress at the Night & Day Cafe, Rooney's, Cascadian Hotel, and Eddie Mays before retirement.

Ruby was married to Vance Robbins in Coeur d'Alene, on December 29, 1953, and they raised her three daughters from her previous marriage. Their family was complete when their son was born in 1955 and Vance bought a home for Ruby on Madison Street. Many happy memories took place there and at her cabin in Ponderosa Estates, Plain. She loved her roses, visiting neighbors, and chatting on the phone with loved ones. Ruby enjoyed many sports, and she and Vance especially enjoyed their trip to the '78 Rose Bowl to watch their son play for the Washington Huskies. She also had the opportunity to meet her favorite Mariners baseball player, Joey Cora.

Ruby is survived by her daughters Mary Jo Bellew and Sandy (Nick) Leishman of Wenatchee, Kathy Field of Moses Lake, and Steve (Suanne) Robbins of East Wenatchee. Ruby has six grandchildren: Dina (John) Elam, Bob (Tammy) Leishman, Whitney Field, Ali (Antonio) Mantese, Chase Robbins and Danielle Robbins. She is also survived by four great-grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren, and her special niece/friend, Janie Carpentier and her family. She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother Ray Melton who died when he was six, sister Opal Hare, and two brothers and one sister who died at birth, husband Vance Robbins, her son-in-law Richard Bellew, and many long-time friends.

Our family wishes to thank everyone at Riverwest Assisted Living for taking good care of Ruby and everyone at Confluence Hospital for their compassionate care in her last days. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in some way to the victims of the Okanogan County fires.

Please join Ruby's family for viewing on Wednesday, July 30, evening, July 30, in the chapel at Jones & Jones-Betts, 302 Ninth Street, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Chaplain Scott Langager will officiate at her graveside service on Thursday, July 31, at 11 :00 a.m. at the Wenatchee Cemetery, 1804 N. Western. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home.

Your work is finished, Mom; rest in peace.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 30. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

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

Service

JUL 31. 11:00 AM (PT)

Wenatchee City Cemetery
1804 N. Western
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ruby Robbins



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - July 28, 2014 at 06:50 PM

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“ I was saddened to learn of Ruby's passing and will remember her as a sweet and gentle soul who always treated me with kindness. Rest in peace "grandma" Ruby. --Cris

Cris Fulmer - September 19, 2014 at 10:25 PM