



Sharon Lee Paine

January 2, 1945 - March 8, 2025

Sharon Lee Paine, 80, a beloved sister, aunt, devoted educator and friend, passed peacefully in her sleep on March 8th at her home in Wenatchee.

Born in Annapolis, Maryland on January 2, 1945 to World War II Navy veterans Robert Lee Paine and Katherine J. Paine (née Saganetti), Sharon grew up in her dad's hometown Wenatchee, Washington. Sharon was a graduate of Wenatchee High School ('63). She was the first in her family to pursue a college education, majoring in English, with a minor in Physical Education at Western Washington College. A lifelong learner, she later earned a library credential and eventually a Master of Library Science from the University of Washington.

During her 30-year career in education, Sharon served as an English teacher, a librarian, and coach for girls' sports teams at Orchard Middle School and her alma mater, WHS. She was known for her kind, encouraging approach and generous spirit.

In retirement, she continued to support and mentor the next generation as a substitute teacher and official scorekeeper for WHS boys' and girls' basketball and volleyball – all the way through this past season. She reveled in the WHS girls' volleyball team winning the state title in 2023!

Sharon had a giving heart and supported countless clubs and organizations including:

- Sons and Daughters of Italian-Americans
- St. Joseph Catholic Church
- North Central Washington Quilt Guild
- Library and Teacher Associations

Most recently, her philanthropy expanded to the Apple Blossom Festival, where Sharon was responsible for recruiting the strawberry cutters for the Funnel Cake food fair stand over the last 12 years. She was proud of her involvement and the meaningful work she and the volunteers did. Her efforts helped raise over \$1,000,000 for scholarships benefiting local high school students enrolling at Wenatchee Valley College.

She leaves behind three brothers, Bob (Nita), Ed (Tonnea), and Tom (Holly); five nephews, Lance (Tree), Benjamin (Bernadette), Scott (Courtney), Jaden, and Dylan; and five great-nieces, Lux, Sadie, Lucie, Quinn, and Addison.

A graveside ceremony is scheduled for April 11th at 11 am at the Wenatchee Cemetery followed by a celebration of life at Highlander Golf Club at 12:30 pm for those who wish to attend.

In lieu of flowers, and to honor her memory, please consider a donation to the Sharon Paine Scholarship, which has been established at the Community Foundation of

North Central Washington to support local students enrolling in a culinary arts program – www.cfncw.org

Arrangements by Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee. WA.

Cemetery Details

Wenatchee City Cemetery

1804 N. Western
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 11. 11:00 AM (PT)

Wenatchee City Cemetery
1804 N. Western
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Reception

APR 11. 12:30 PM (PT)

Highlander Golf Course
2920 8th Street SE
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Tribute Wall

SB

“ I am grateful for Sharon's service to children. Our family first got to know her as the Orchard Middle School librarian. She intentionally created a safe space in the library. She hosted "nerdy" boys who gathered to eat lunch in the library, and she invited our son to join this group early in his 6th grade year. As an avid reader, our daughter found welcome and support in the warmth of the library. I always think of Sharon with her welcoming smile. As a symphony musician for the last decade, For each concert, I looked forward to saying hello to Sharon when she was a volunteer usher at the PAC.
- Susan Ballinger

Susan Ballinger - April 12, 2025 at 08:13 PM

KP

“ She often assisted the Sons of Italy Lodge as we annually "maned" the Nason Creek rest stop window giving out cookies and coffee to travelers headed in either direction. The last time there she and I shared the booth, chatting while she kept her hands busy crocheting book-worm bookmarks. She always had a ready smile no matter how she felt. We will miss her at the next Italian home- made pizza lunch and bocce ball games at the Rock Island ranch. kp.

Kathy Porrovecchio - March 29, 2025 at 02:48 AM

TP

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



tonya pygott - March 22, 2025 at 12:56 PM

PD

“ 1 file added to the album Sharon



Patricia Devereaux - March 12, 2025 at 11:41 PM