



## Theresa M. Harris

December 16, 1936 - January 20, 2020

Theresa was born to Gerald and Elizabeth (Betty) Kerns on December 16, 1936 in Seattle WA. She attended Catholic elementary schools in Seattle and graduated from Cleveland High School. She attended one year at Seattle University where she majored in Education, was a cheerleader, and a 1955 Seafair Princess - Miss Capitol Hill. Seattle U was also where she began dating her future husband, David Harris. They were married in Seattle on June 9, 1956.

In 1962 they bought their first home in the Madrona district of Seattle. David spent many hours updating and improving it, and Theresa made it beautiful with her special decorating touches. They had seven children over the next ten years and Theresa was a very busy and fulfilled wife, mother, and homemaker. Theresa and David's strong faith was a priority and they were active in St. Theresa's parish. Even though money was tight, they sent their children to the parish school. Mom instilled her love of books and music in her children as well.

In 1969 David accepted a partnership in an Eastern Washington architecture firm, and the family moved across the Cascades to Wenatchee. In 1972 they built a house that David had designed for the family and have remained there to the present day.

Theresa loved to sing and was a member of church choirs and singing groups throughout her life. She also enjoying dancing, was an avid reader and writer. One of her poems was published in a local book of inspirational writings. She was an artist as well, and sold note cards of her whimsical folk art drawings in local shops for several years. After David retired they spent many happy years sailing in their sailboat around the Washington coastline, and flying in small planes with David as the pilot.

Always active in her church and children's affairs, Theresa was a vibrant member of the St. Joseph parish community and school for forty-eight years. She loved working with young children, and as her own children grew up and moved into adulthood she continued in many activities. She was a Brownie den mother, CCD teacher, a teaching assistant and reading tutor at St. Joseph school. She served as President of St. Damien's Guild for two terms, and was President of the Wenatchee group of Catholic Council of Women for one term. She was a volunteer store clerk at The Little Art Gallery, and volunteered in the store in St. Joseph's church. One of the activities that was most important to her was her weekly hour of prayer in the church chapel for the 24 hour perpetual adoration prayer group. She continued serving in this until very recently. Theresa's prayers and spiritual counsel brought comfort and hope to many people over the years.

Theresa was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband of sixty-three years, David O. Harris and seven children: Michelle (Gene) Loudon of Wenatchee, Colleen (Colin Foden) Harris of Port Townsend, Kristy Harris of Wenatchee, Vicky (Jim) Fleishman of Bellingham WA, Nick (Lesah) Harris of Wenatchee, Jackie (Matt) Corulli of Bellevue WA, and Karen (Mark) Hayward of Redmond, WA. seventeen grandchildren: Beth (Michael), Stacia, David (Lynsey) Loudon, Nick (Laura), Michael, Mark (Rena) Boese, Mackie and Luke Fleishman, Jake (Mistaya) Johnston, Jordan, and TJ Harris; Zach Corulli; Anthony, Nick (Katie), and Sam Hayward; Clare and Madelaine

Foden; and seven great-grandchildren: Carson and Bella Boese, Fiona Koenen, Miles & Bowen Johnston, Emery Loudon, and a new baby girl Boese arriving in April. She is also survived by special friends Jean Beers, Leanne Ryan, and Laura Ward.

The words of a poem Theresa wrote express her philosophy of life: "Today I Will Try To: Put other people first, Bring happiness into other lives, Make people laugh, Enjoy the blessings of each new day, Carry the load of today only, Resist unkind thoughts about others, Be happy!!!, Not complain and find fault with others, Show lots of love to others, Love God above all, and love my neighbor just as I truly love myself." Theresa brought happiness, laughter, and love into the world around her until the day she went home to her Lord Jesus.

A Rosary will be recited on Friday, January 24 at 7:00 pm at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 625 S. Elliott Ave, Wenatchee WA. Mass of Cristian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, January 25 at 11:00 am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with entombment to follow at Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery in East Wenatchee. A reception will follow at Kuykendall Hall at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

# Previous Events

## Rosary

JAN **24**. 7:00 PM (PT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
625 S Elliott  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 662-4569  
<http://www.stjosephwen.org/>

## Mass

JAN **25**. 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
625 S Elliott  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 662-4569  
<http://www.stjosephwen.org/>

# Tribute Wall

DE

“ *Dolores Erickson wishes to express her deepest condolences to the Harris family. Theresa and Dolores were friends from Cleveland High School days. She remembers and will miss the beautiful person this world had in Theresa. She also wishes to share her most profound sympathies with the members of the Harris family. This planets loss is Heavens gain, may she be lifted on angels wings as this new journey begins...*

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**Dolores Erickson** - January 25, 2020 at 04:24 PM

JM

“ *We send our sympathy to your family as you wade through this difficult time. May the loving presence of family and friends lend support to all as you gather to honor such a sweet soul and share memories about her wonderful life.*  
*June and Roger Mills, Port Townsend*

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**June Mills** - January 25, 2020 at 02:52 PM

SK

“ *Dear Dave and Family,*  
*I was a 5 year old member of the wedding party for my first cousin Theresa and Dave's wedding.*  
*Although we were separated by the Cascades, we saw each other at Kerns family get-togethers.*  
*She was a vibrant and beautiful woman and will be missed.*  
**STEVE KERNS and MARIAN FOLSOM**  
*Bothell, Wa.*

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**Steve Kerns** - January 25, 2020 at 02:42 PM

DM

“ I’m so sorry I can’t be at Theresa’s funeral today but my heart is there with each of you as you say goodbye to a beautiful and loving mom. I’m thankful for the experience of staying with Dave and Theresa in 2016 with Jean.. there were lots of stories about her kids and and she was so happy to share a home movie of a family trip to the ocean.. we had a laugh about the time she caught me smoking in her craft room when I was a teenager, very awkward for me at the time, she didn’t remember but I sure do! She is a truly special lady and I know how much every one of you will miss her. Sincerely,  
*Dolores Marshall*

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**Dolores Marshall** - January 25, 2020 at 11:43 AM

DM

*Correction: it was a 2014 visit*

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**Dolores Marshall** - January 27, 2020 at 12:19 PM

LC

“ Theresa and Dave were our neighbors across Madison street in the 90’s. Theresa was a great neighbor/friend to us. Always smiling and inviting me in for a cup of tea. Our frequent dinners or breakfasts out together with her and Dave are fond memories we cherish! She will be greatly missed!

*Mike and Linda Cowardin*

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**Linda Cowardin** - January 24, 2020 at 01:34 PM

JC

“ Theresa always came into our dental office with a huge smile for me, even when she was in pain. She loved to hear about my family, loved a good hug, and would pray for anything she heard was bothering me.  
*I will miss her!*”

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**Joy CrowE** - January 24, 2020 at 10:04 AM



“ Jackie, I am so sorry for your loss. From the obituary your mom sounds like an amazing woman! May your memories bring you comfort in the days ahead.”

*Evelyn Kellogg*

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**Evelyn Kellogg** - January 23, 2020 at 07:23 PM