



## W. Willene Gaston

September 18, 1922 - April 30, 2017

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Willene W. Gaston died at her home on April 30, 2017, after a short battle with lung cancer. She was 94. Willene was born on September 18, 1922, in Wiseman, AR, to Marvin and Vesta (Langston) Rogers. She attended school in

Violet Hill, AR, until relocating to Monitor, WA, in 1937, and there she attended Cashmere High School. She married Jack Cooper in 1939, and the couple

made their home in Wenatchee, WA. Willene started packing apples at age 15.

This would become a lifelong avocation. She was said to be one of the fastest and 'quality' packers in the state. She also worked in retail for the "South End Army-Navy" (Stan's Merry Mart) and for Sav-Mart. At home, Willene enjoyed

gardening and a variety of sewing crafts, but her claim to fame was her "southern cooking" and making sure no visitor left hungry.

Willene was a devoted wife and a fantastic mother. She adopted the nickname of

“Granny” after the birth of her first grandson. That title stuck and she became known as Granny to everyone. Granny loved any sport a grandchild was participating in and rarely missed an event. Willene became a widow in 1972. In 1978, she married a former Arkansas school friend, Doyle Gaston. The couple were avid about fishing, Eastern Star, travel, and sports - but most important was family and friends. Willene was always the first to lend a hand and the last to leave. She was fiercely independent to the end, but she agreed to relocate to Richland, WA, in 2015 to be near her family so “they wouldn’t worry”.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

MAY 11. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

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

# Tribute Wall

DE

“ *Dave & Janet Eakin lit a candle in memory of  
W. Willene Gaston*



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**Dave & Janet Eakin** - May 11, 2017 at 01:59 PM

DE

*She was loved by many and always will be*

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**Dave & Janet Eakin** - May 11, 2017 at 02:00 PM