



## Betty Lou Honrud

July 29, 1931 - August 15, 2017

Betty Lou Honrud (Shilleto) passed from this life into the presence of the Lord on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 12.03 a.m. at St. Joseph's Hospital as a result of an inoperable hip fracture.

Betty was born July 29, 1931 in Tonasket, WA to Howard R. and Pearl J. M. Shilleto (Moe). She grew up in Ferndale, attended First Baptist Church from cradle roll on and met and married Merlyn D. Honrud in November 1948 on Thanksgiving Day. After a short time in Seattle, they moved to Opheim, Montana to wheat farm and were there for about six years before moving back to Whatcom County. During this time, Betty had four children – Carol, Linda, Duane and David.

In addition to her primary focus on being a wife and mother, Betty worked in various family berry fields (hoeing and “berry bossing”), then several years at the National Bank of Commerce in Bellingham. She also owned and operated the Ladies' Lair clothing store in Ferndale and helped out at the family owned Shanghai Restaurant. She enjoyed singing, cooking, baking, traveling in the motor home and most of all being with family. She was a social and friendly person with a great smile. When Merlyn died in January, 1999, Betty moved from Bellingham to Ferndale where her children helped build her apartment on Aldergrove. She also had a “winter” residence in Yuma, AZ where, after 5 years, she met and married a Ferndale classmate, Vern Nelson. They spent a

wonderful seven years together traveling between Yuma, Ferndale and Sitka Alaska until Vern's death in 2011. She continued to enjoy yearly visits to Yuma with her children until the last year of her life.

Betty was preceded in death by her husbands – Merlyn Honrud and Vern Nelson, her parents Howard and Pearl Shilleto, sister Shirley Ball, brother-in-law Bill Rouse and grandson Ralph Honrud.

She is survived by her children – Carol Biagi (Chuck) and Linda Wilkins (Steve) of Bellingham, Duane Honrud of Eagle River, Alaska, and David Honrud (Marie) of Ferndale, sisters Charlotte Rouse of Walla Walla, WA, Joanne Graves (Stan) and Claudia Unruh (Robert) of Ferndale, many grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, brothers and sisters-in-law.

There will be a viewing on Monday, August 21, 2017 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and a Memorial Service on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. with a Graveside Service at 2:00 p.m., all held at Moles Greenacres Memorial Park (5700 Northwest Drive, Ferndale). Donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Society of Washington, 1308 Meador Ave., Suite C1, Bellingham, WA 98229.

# Tribute Wall

CL

“ My condolences to the family. Betty was a sweet sweet lady you were blessed to have her as your Mother. She will certainly be missed by her family and friends...RIP Betty

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**Claudia** - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ I worked with Betty and Merlyn years ago in the office for the Shanghai, Pioneer Center and a few times in the Ladies Lair. They were both very good to me and I loved working for them. Betty was such a wonderful lady – you all were lucky to have such a great mom. In 1982 when I was very pregnant with baby #2 Betty offered and encouraged me to use their pool since they were going to be gone. She allowed me to take a friend and Curtis (2 1/2) at the time to enjoy a hot afternoon taking the baby weight off by sitting in the warm water. It was such a wonderful afternoon and I appreciated her generosity. I was very sad to hear she had Alzheimer's. My mother passed away last year also from this horrible disease. John and I send our condolences to all of you. Both Mutt and Betty we so generous and nice to us over the years and we both really appreciated that. Two great people are now joined again. Again our condolences – John & Gail Wasilewski

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**Gail (Charvat) Wasilewski** - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM