



Bonnie Jean Vaniman

April 27, 1927 - April 1, 2016

Bonnie Jean Vaniman, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, passed away at the age of 88 on April 1, 2016. She was born to Evelyn and Curtis Allen “Bus” Hinote on April 27th, 1927.

Bonnie graduated from Nooksack Valley High School in 1945, and married Herb Vaniman in Bellingham on March 25th, 1949. The newlyweds lived in Tulsa Oklahoma for one year while Herb attended Spartan School of Aeronautics. Following Herb’s graduation, they returned to Bellingham, where Herb flew for Bellingham Flying Service. Shortly thereafter, the couple moved to Friday Harbor where Herb flew for Island Sky Ferries. Five years later, they settled in Everson, where Herb began a long career in the family business, Hinote’s Furniture.

They raised two children, Debbie and Curt, in an immaculately-kept home on Main St, where cherished memories were made from numerous gatherings of family and friends. After Herb’s retirement, Bonnie and Herb moved to James Street Estates in Bellingham in 1990.

Christmas was her favorite time of year, and she and Herb took great delight decorating their home in thousands of lights for passersby to enjoy. In 1994, they fulfilled a dream with the purchase of a large motor home, and over the next 10 years, had the time of their lives taking annual trips, ultimately visiting

each of the lower 48 states. Bonnie was a devoted homemaker who deeply loved her family, and all the wonderful times they shared together.

She was preceded in death by husband Herb in 2008, and daughter Debbie in 2010. Survivors are son Curt Vaniman and wife Julie; grandchildren Eric Vaniman and Kendra Vaniman; sister Donna Towle; brother-in-law Bob Nevins and wife Sandy; niece Shelly McKay and husband Bryan, and nephews Greg Towle, Jamie Nevins, Christopher Nevins and their families.

A private family gathering will be held to celebrate Bonnie's life. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Bonnie's name to the Alzheimer's Association, or the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

Tribute Wall

DG

“ Dear Curt & Family, I was so sorry to read of your Mom’s passing. I have very fond memories of your family when you lived across from my parents on Williams St. I use to babysit you and Debbie when you both were very young. I loved you parents, but especially your Mom. She had a wonderful sense of humor & a big heart. She really was like a second Mom to me. It was a sad day when your family moved to Everson, but your Mom always stayed in touch with my parents. I still cherish the beautiful crystal vase your parents gave me as a wedding gift 40 years ago. I’m grateful for all the wonderful memories associated with your Mom & Dad. God Bless, Dotti Johnson Goldsmith

Dotti Johnson Goldsmith - April 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Bonnie was a second mother to me. Never was there a time Bonnie didn’t welcome the friends of Curt. And I had the privilege of spending many days at the family home. Everything always in perfect order and snacks available, none of us every wanted to go home. So loving, so giving, so welcoming, even when mischief was suspected. So many great memory’s. Thinking of the entire family during this hard time.

Mark Scheib - April 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM