



## Darlene Janel Metcalf

July 11, 1935 - May 11, 2015

Darlene Metcalf was born on July 11, 1935 and passed away on May 11, 2015 in Bellingham, surrounded by family, music and prayer. She will be deeply missed by her friends and family. Darlene's legacy of generosity, kindness and creativity lives on through her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Darlene was a great lady and a force of nature. She was constantly in motion, was an active member of her church, and a frequent volunteer at local nursing homes and in the community. She was a devout Christian, and used her artistic skills to prepare floral arrangements for a multitude of weddings and events at Immanuel Bible Church.

Darlene was born in Highmore, South Dakota and moved to Bellingham as a child. She graduated from Bellingham High School in 1952, where she met life-long friends Dolores Nicholas, Shirley Engels, Joy Guthrie, Shirley Forslof and Donna Woods. Darlene worked for many years in the Whatcom County Auditor's office as the County Deputy Auditor. Darlene met the love of her life, Warren, when she was 14 years old. Six years later, they married and had a loving, stable marriage of 60 years. Together, they enjoyed their family, friends, volunteering, camping, traveling and making crafts, which they sold at craft bazaars.

Family was the center of Darlene's life. Her family called her Granny, which she tolerated with good humor, and embraced her role as matriarch. Darlene

was preceded in death by her mother, Berneita Norden, father Donald Burnham, step father Clyde Norden, uncle Wallace Murphy, uncle Bob Richardson, aunt Marceille Richardson, uncle Clyde Wickler and mother in law, Bonnie Metcalf. She is survived by her beloved husband Warren Metcalf; her three children Cindy Geri and her husband Lou Geri of Bellingham, Tammy Forhan and her husband Craig Forhan of Ferndale, and Dan Metcalf and his wife Sue Metcalf of Bellingham; her 7 grandchildren Michelle Farris, Melissa Jenkins, Katy Geri, Samantha Forhan, Alex Forhan, Hunter Metcalf and Kelsey Metcalf, and her 4 great grandchildren, Owen Farris, Riley Jenkins, Luke Farris and Rex Jenkins. Darlene is also survived by four brothers, Terry Burnham, Jerry Burnham, Wayne Burnham (Delanie) and Tony Norden, aunt Mary Wickler, sister in law Joann Norden, nieces Teri Grindley and Kim Norden Acuna, nephews Brett Norden and Chris Norden, cousins D'Linda Laird, Don Richardson, Larry Richardson, Ron Richardson, Bob Auer, Jan Martinsen, Marilyn Wight and many other second cousins, nephews and nieces.

Special thanks to Lynden Manor, Alderwood Park, Whatcom Hospice, Dr. Hoekema and Dr. Steele.

A memorial service will be held at 11am on Saturday, May 23 at Moles Farewell Tributes- Bellingham. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a contribution in Darlene's memory to Immanuel Bible Church.

Share your thoughts and memories of Darlene in the guestbook.

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Our sympathies to the Families. The Lord brought us next door to be Darlene and Warren neighbors for 29 years. They were great neighbors and friends. It was always fun to see the new flower creations that Darlene was working on. We were always in awe watching the craft creations from Darlene and Warren. We had some good camping trips with them and walking on the beaches. When we would come back to Bellingham for a visit, we would always make sure we would stop by and go out to lunch or dinner with them. We will always treasure our memories. God Bless you all*  
*Al and Rita Miller*

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**Al and Rita Miller** - May 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM