



Elizabeth Jeanette Deaton

January 4, 1937 - September 14, 2020

Elizabeth “Jeanette” Deaton, age 83, passed away peacefully in her sleep at home in Bellingham, Washington on September 14, 2020.

Jeanette was born on January 4th, 1937 in Queen City, Texas to Velma Jean (Mauldin) Welch and John Robert Welch. In 1956 she married Odell Deaton in Odessa, Texas. Together they raised 3 children. Odell worked as a roughneck, and in 1969 they moved to Bellingham so he could be closer to the Alaskan oil fields. Even out west, Jeanette never lost touch with her southern roots. This was most evident in the huge southern meals she would cook for family.

Jeanette loved her family most and cherished time spent with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She positively beamed when family gathered around her table to eat, play games, and listen to Jeanette tell a story or three. Jeanette loved to work in her garden and was always up for a road trip or shopping spree.

For a time, Jeanette managed the best hamburger restaurant in Bellingham, Sornbergers! But, most of her working life was spent working in Environmental Services at St. Joseph’s Hospital. Jeanette retired as the Team Lead from St. Joe’s in 2002, dedicating her retirement years to raising her great-grandson Sonny, caring for her husband Odell, and loving all her family.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years Odell, sisters Bobbye Whidden and Nancy Tribbey, children Melanie and Cindy, grandchildren Lisa, Brian, Madeline, Emily “Jaynie”, Nicholas, and Joshua, and great grandchildren Sonny, Abby, Craig, Jayda, and Noah.

Jeanette was preceded in death by her parents John Robert Welch 1942 and Velma Jean (Mauldin) Welch 1947, brother Billy Robert Welch 1932, sisters Doris Yvonne (Welch) Graham 1999, Mary Helen Welch-Hodges 2006, and her precious son Randy “the Bear” Deaton 1999.

Jeanette’s final resting place is at Bayview Cemetery in Bellingham.

Tribute Wall

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“ I’m glad I got to pick you up off the floor and lay you in bed stare you in your good eye lol inside joke you won’t get it and tell her she was my hero before she told me since she is gone now it has to get done before I/ me dies bringing my mother and aunt back to a understanding. Oh thanks....I’ll try my best hug lay down then back up wait you ain’t doing nothing wrong who cares what they think she said then layed back down September 12th 2020

????? - September 25, 2025 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ I remember Elizabeth from Peace health, she was a very nice person, patient and friendly always smiling. I didn’t work in her department, but our paths crossed often. May she rest in peace. Condolences to her family.

Judy Good - September 27, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Our sincere condolences to Uncle Odell and our cousins in the northwest of the passing of our aunt. We wish peace and comfort to the entire family.

Ronnie Lauree Stapp & Family - September 24, 2020 at 12:00 AM