



## Esther Loretta Brainard

April 3, 1928 - November 28, 2014

Esther Loretta Brainard (Cushing), age 86, of Bellingham, WA, passed away on Friday November 28, 2014. Esther was born in Unga, Alaska on April 13, 1928. She met her husband Blair Brainard in Alaska and the two of them were married on April 2nd 1948. They moved to Fairhaven, Bellingham in 1955 and lived here ever since.

She loved camping, fishing and learning the Unangan ways. Esther was an active member of AA for 39 years (Drydock and Southside AA meetings were her homes) where she sponsored many and helped many obtain and maintain sobriety. She was also an elder in the native dance groups, attended Northwest Indian College in the counseling program, and was a dedicated gifted housewife and homemaker.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Blair Brainard, and son Blair "Butch" Brainard Jr. She is survived by her brother Jack Cushing of Alaska and sister Florence Burton of Bellingham, WA, daughter Diane (Willie) Alvarez, son Stan (Marg) Brainard, and four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

No services are planned.

# Tribute Wall

LG

“ *s thinking of your Mom and Dad just yesterday. Was so surprised to see that she had passed away. My father , Ira Blair, was a good friend of your parents and I used to babysit for the 3 of you when you were young. Your folks were always two of my favourite people. My thoughts are with you.*

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**Linda Blair Gerner** - November 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *Ester was the best mother in law a wife could ever ask for. (but she could have kept those “blonde jokes” to herself) Always so kind and thoughtful (except for the bunny foo foos)... Seriously, I miss her humor, her smile and most of all her love...And I am so thankful to have known her so intimately.*

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**Margaret Brainard** - November 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM