



Gladys A. Rieke

November 13, 1920 - December 4, 2015

Gladys Adeline Rieke, 95, died Friday, December 4th at Lakeside Garden in Lynden, Washington. She was born November 13, 1920 in Genesee, Idaho to Hugo and Barbara Gehrke. Gladys attended college at the University of Idaho, and while there she met Robert V. Rieke. They were married June 18, 1939 in Genesee. To this union were born two sons: Rev. Robert D. (Sharon) of Blaine, Washington, and Rev. Daniel A, (Tracy) of Wenatchee, Washington. Accepting a call to establish a Lutheran parish in south Seattle, Robert V. and Gladys were a ministry team growing and serving Glendale Evangelical Lutheran Church for forty years. Gladys was adept at organizing, and leading, and was the piano player for the new church. Her creative ability and numerous talents were in great measure responsible for Glendale's successful ministry. With her sons well on their life journey, Gladys went back to college and graduated with a Masters degree in Education from University of Washington. Three tassels hung on the rear view mirror of the Rieke Ford in 1965. Dan graduating from Highline High School. Bob graduating from Highline Community College and Mom from UW. Gladys went on to teach English at Seahurst Junior High for sixteen years. In early retirement she coordinated and joined husband Bob in leading worldwide Globus Tours. The next portion of life's journey Gladys and Robert divided time between Roadhaven in Phoenix, Arizona, and Kent, Washington. Finally moving to Bellingham, Washington to be near son Bob who was serving a parish in Blaine. After 69 years of marriage, Robert V. died in 2008. Gladys continued

to live at Merrill Gardens in Bellingham until moving in 2011 to Lakeside Garden in Lynden. Gladys was energetic and inquisitive, a life-long learner and teacher. She loved her God, her family, and her church.

Our deepest appreciation to all who blessed Mom's journey, especially the loving care-givers at Lakeside Garden: Darla, Doug, Kelly, Roxanne, Amanda, Tracy, Jill, Emily, and Chiane and to Whatcom County Hospice. Memorial gifts can be given to the Interfaith Coalition.

The celebration of Gladys' life is Saturday, December 12th at Faith Lutheran Church 2750 McLeod Rd in Bellingham. Visitation is at 10:00AM followed by Worship at 11:00AM with a video presentation and luncheon to follow.

Tribute Wall

JH

“ I remember Gladys so very well. I had a special visit from her when I was going through a traumatic divorce. She encouraged me to renew my teaching certificate, and while that couldn't be an immediate road, I eventually was teaching high school in Vancouver, WA. We now live in the Spokane area, but I remember how lovely and caring Gladys was and how she carried so much concern for her boys! She was a dynamic presence and God gave her so many gifts to share with others!

Judy LaMont (formerly Huber) - December 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Dear Bob and Sharon. I am so grateful that i had the chance to know your mother, even if for just a short part of her life. What a lady and what an outstanding person. I love that she was here in Blaine for you while a pastor at UCC. love, Marjorie Reichhardt

Marjorie Reichhardt - December 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I had the extreme pleasure of growing up across the street from this wonderful woman. She was always so happy and loving, the family game nights, all the services at Glendale she was a real inspiration to many of us young girls. There is not doubt that she will be missed by so many but all that knew her know that God and Pastor Bob were there to welcome her home.

Candy Rystrom Williams - December 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Gladys Rieke family,
We've been members of Glendale LUTHERAN for many years.
Thank you for sharing Pastor Bob and MRS Rieke and being apart
of our life's Christian growth and upbringing.
The entire Rieke family please know you're in our thoughts and
prayers
In Christ
Jim-Debbie-Brandon and Ben WICKHAM
Normandy Park, WA

Jim & Debbie Wickham - December 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM