



VernaRae Gardner

September 1, 1926 - June 19, 2023

VernaRae Gardner, aged 96, passed away on June 19th, 2023.

VernaRae was born on September 1, 1926, to Thora and William Neiman in Tyler, Minnesota.

After graduating from Highschool in Traci, Minnesota, VernaRae went on to clerical school where she learned to write in shorthand.

In 1947, VernaRae married Warren Gardner in Richmond, California.

VernaRae started her career in 1955, at Bellingham Federal Savings & Loan, which became Horizon Bank in the 1970's and she retired in 1991.

She was a devout Lutheran and long-time member of St. John's Lutheran church in Bellingham.

VernaRae traveled extensively with her closest friend Karen LePage and particularly loved her trips to Maui.

VernaRae was preceded in death by her husband Warren Gardner, her parents, sister, and brothers. She is survived by her son Gary Gardner and his partner Traci Hanson, granddaughters Darcie Hill(Mike Hill), Kaylee

Lovelady(Matt Lovelady), great grandchildren Ripken, Riley, Blakely, Payton and her lifelong friend Karen LePage.

VernaRae was loved by many and will be remembered for her sense of humor and her kindness.

In Leu of flowers, please make donations to your local hospice organization.

Tribute Wall

GG

“ *What a classy lady and a nice person. She did things for people behind the scenes and was inspirational to a lot of people. Thoughts and prayers are with the family and Karen at this time.*

Greg Grant - June 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *The world is a little dimmer now that Verna Rae is no longer in it. I know what a faithful and longtime friend she has been to Karen. I used to see the two of them at SeaTac after some of their many adventures, waiting for a flight to Bellingham, when I was there for the same reason. My heart goes out to her family and her dear friend Karen, who was like family to her.*

Beth Sherry - June 23, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ *Such a special lady!!! Love you so much Grams* ❤️

Sandy Gardner - June 23, 2023 at 12:00 AM