



## Gladys Tracy

June 4, 1917 - December 12, 2018

Gladys Pearl Tracy, a long time Moses Lake resident, passed away on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at the age of 101 at home surrounded by family. Friends may call at the Kayser's Chapel for viewing Wednesday, Dec. 19 from 3 until 7pm. Private Family burial will be held at 2pm. Saturday, Dec. 22 at Pioneer Memorial Gardens. Arrangements are in care of Kayser's Chapel and Crematory, Moses Lake. Please sign the online quest book and share a memory with family at [www.kayserschapel.com](http://www.kayserschapel.com)

Gladys P. Tracy was born June 4, 1917 at home on their family farm outside of Webster, Iowa. She was the first child of Edgar J. and Pearl E. Dillon followed by younger brothers, Frank and Robert. They grew with both set of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins farming close by. When she graduated from high school, she took the job of school teacher at the White Pigeon country school teaching grades 1-8 for two years. When she decided to attend college, her father paid for her first year's tuition to the University of Iowa with 4 cows. She originally majored in Music but switched to Nursing. She worked as a nanny, painted the interiors of houses and school rooms and did other odd jobs to pay her way through school. She met her future husband and life partner, Harold Tracy while on a blind date when he was in medical school. Gladys graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in the spring of 1942 from the University of Iowa and enlisted in the Army Nursing Corps. She married Harold on a weekend in St. Louis, MO on Oct. 17, 1942. She couldn't tell anyone in the Army that she was married because it would have been grounds for discharge. Mom was honorably discharged, as a Second Lieutenant, in the fall of 1943 when she had to tell the Army she was married and pregnant with Larry.

Gladys used her nursingskills to volunteer for the American Red Cross and care for her seven children. She was active in the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church once they moved to Moses Lake in 1049. Her other activities included being in a cub scout den mother; PTA; Salvation Army Board (ringing the bell each Christmas in front of the stores and taking kids to summer camp); active member of PEO Chapter ER with several of her dear friends, member of DAR Chapter Karneetsa; founder and member of Community Concert; baked pies (especially cherry) for Rotary Club Fund Raisers; hosted 5 foreign exchange students through the Moses Lake Rotary Club; knitted 100-150 mittens for 7-8 years up until 4 years ago (she hated to think of kids having cold hands after walking to school

herself during Iowa winters) as well as Christmas stockings for all the kids, grandkids, and great grandkids; traveled the world with Harold, and was active in the Republican Party. Gladys had an amazing musical talent, which enabled her to hear a tune and play it “by ear” on the piano or organ without printed music. Gladys believed education was important for all. She was a devout Christian, who internalized Christ’s teaching and showed in her daily actions throughout her life. Up until three years ago, she read her Bible front to back 3 times a year. She never criticized other people for their beliefs and preferred to show caring and acceptance for others. She lived her life with joy and gratitude for everyone she met, and especially all the people she grew to know dearly in Moses Lake. She has left all her family and friends with a great example to follow on how to live life.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Harold L. Tracy MD and son, Kenneth D. Tracy. She is survived by her children Larry and Nancy Tracy, Ronald and Bennie Tracy, Barbara Tracy and Jay VanSant, Robert and Virginia Tracy, Steven and Camilla Tracy, Trish Tracy, and Donald Tracy: 16 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church 1142 Ivy St. Moses Lake, WA 98837; Big Bend Community College Foundation – Dr. and Gladys Tracy Nursing Scholarship Fund 7662 Chanute St, N.E., Moses Lake, WA 98837; Salvation Army 212 S. Alder St., Moses Lake, WA 98837; Assured Hospice 1417 S. Pioneer Way, Moses Lake, WA. 98837

# Cemetery

---

## **Pioneer Memorial Gardens**

14403 Rd. 2 Ne  
Moses Lake, WA,

# Events

---

**DEC**   **Visitation**   03:00PM - 07:00PM  
**19**

---

Kayser's Chapel of Memories  
831 S. Pioneer Way, Moses Lake, WA, US

**FEB**   **Service**   11:00AM  
**2**

---

Moses Lake Presbyterian Church  
1142 W. Ivy, Moses Lake, WA, US

# Comments

---



“ Ron, our hearts are saddened by your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with you. May your memories give your family peace and comfort. Diana & Tami Bateman

**Diana Bateman** - January 11 at 01:39 AM

---



“ It has been an honor and a privilege to know and love Gladys Tracy. We have been in a variety of roles and relationships since we first met 57 years ago. She has been a mother-in-law, a grandmother and great grandmother, a former mother-in-law, and friend. She navigated all these changes with generosity, grace and style. I will be forever grateful for the many life lessons she taught me through the way she lived. I will miss her.

**Kathy McFarlane Tracy Mason** - January 02 at 01:00 PM

---



“ I will always remember her warm heart, gentle spirit, and caring about others. Whenever I think of her, I remember the popcorn she used to pack the goodies in my care package. Her light is in heaven now.

**Jim Thompson** - December 22, 2018 at 11:41 AM

---



“ Kerry Schaar- Niece lit a candle in memory of Gladys Tracy



**Kerry Schaar- niece** - December 22, 2018 at 07:54 AM

---



“ Candi Thonney - Neighbor lit a candle in memory of Gladys Tracy



Candi Thonney - neighbor - December 20, 2018 at 01:41 PM

---



“ I just had the off hand chance to look at the Columbia Basin Hearld that comes to my mother, Nelle Fuller and saw the obituary notice. My condolences to all the family and in particular, Barbara with whom I attended school.

Neil Fuller

DeForest Fuller - December 19, 2018 at 05:41 PM

---



“ I met the Tracy's at the Presbyterian Church in 1956. She recruited me to help with Salvation Army projects, sold me Community concert tickets, and became by P.E.O. sister in 1969. She was a special person, a loyal friend, and a great witness of her strong Christian Faith. She will be missed.

Mary Courtright

Mary Courtright - December 18, 2018 at 06:35 PM

---



“ Gladys was a tireless "social" worker for all Grant County and will be remembered and missed. Our condolences to the entire family, especially to Larry and Amber.

Richard and Lucy Fitterer

richard fitterer - December 18, 2018 at 12:25 PM

---



“ To the Tracy family. Your mother and father were wonderful people who help raise many of us over the years. Sorry for you loss. Your parents have left a wonderful legacy, all of you.

Bob Trask Jr.



“ Such a nice lady. Will miss her. My condolences and prayers to the family.

**Karen Hand** - December 17, 2018 at 08:54 PM

---



“ Karen Hand lit a candle in memory of Gladys Tracy



**Karen Hand** - December 17, 2018 at 08:52 PM

---



“ Such a gracious & giving lady- Gladys will never be forgotten nor will her ability to remember the name of every person she had ever met. Thoughts, prayers & condolences to the entire Tracy family

**Sally Goodwin** - December 17, 2018 at 06:42 PM

---



“ I have many fond memories as a small girl walking to Tracy's house. Gladys was most often found in the kitchen frequently baking cookies, no wonder I seemed to wander in that direction. She was so patient and kind, showing concern for others, and sharing her talents always. She will be greatly missed, but remembered fondly by many.

**Gretel Hart** - December 16, 2018 at 08:37 PM

---



“ Thinking of you with brother Bob and Carolyn  
Love Teri, niece



Teri Schuenemann - December 16, 2018 at 12:10 AM

---



“ Teri Schuenemann lit a candle in memory of Gladys Tracy



Teri Schuenemann - December 16, 2018 at 12:02 AM

---



“ Dave & Joan Lobie lit a candle in memory of Gladys Tracy



Dave & Joan Lobie - December 15, 2018 at 10:17 AM