



## Mary Jane "Teddy" Morse

January 16, 1923 - October 14, 2019

Mary Jane Morse died October 14, 2019 at Summerwood Care Center in Moses Lake, WA. Affectionately known to her family and friends as Teddy, she was born Jan 16, 1923 in St. Marie's, ID to Peter and Zura Mungovan. She was raised in Spokane, WA and graduated from Marycliff High School. She married Robert E. Morse on October 10, 1944 and moved to Winthrop, WA to live and work on a sheep and cattle ranch. After moving to Spokane Bob worked for Acme Concrete Co. Teddy eventually completed her college degree in English at Whitworth College in 1964 and master's degree in Education in 1969. She began her teaching career in Spokane at the Good Shepard Home for Girls. She later took an English teacher position at West Valley High School in Millwood, WA and taught there until her retirement. Bob and Teddy spent several years traveling the US in their travel trailer until Bob's death in 1988. Afterwards Teddy lived in Wenatchee, WA helping care for Bob's parents, Frank and Bertha Morse and Bob's Aunt Lydia Rivers. She eventually moved to Moses Lake, WA to be closer to her daughter Mary and grandchildren. She lived independently and drove a car into her 90's. However, the effects of Alzheimer's forced her into extended care at Monroe House and then Summerwood Care Center. Teddy got her nickname because she was a true tomboy in her younger years. She always dreamed of living on a ranch and owning her own horse. She loved the ranch and would entertain family with stories of the challenges and mishaps of life on the ranch. She cooked for the hired men and bottle-nursed bum lambs in the house while raising small children. In addition to their five children, Teddy and Bob took in several foster children including two teenage Cuban refugee boys. Her children have many fond memories of family camp trips and summers at the cabin on Newman Lake in Rathdrum, ID. Teddy will be remembered with great love as a feisty, fun loving, story telling, adventuresome person. She loved Shakespeare, great literature, scriptural studies, and travel. Her intelligence, determination, and lively animated ways will live in our memories forever.

Teddy was preceded in death by her husband of 42 years, Robert, sons Peter and Michael, her

mother and father, brother Peter Mungovan and sister Irene Elmgren. She is survived by her daughters Mary Shannon of Moses Lake, WA and Rose Short of Everett, WA, son

Robert David Morse of Spokane, WA, 10 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. A Rosary will be recited at 1:30 pm followed by a funeral Mass at 2:00 pm on Friday, October 18 at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Moses Lake, WA. Entombment will be on Saturday, October 19, 2:00 pm at Holy Cross Cemetery in Spokane, WA.

# Cemetery

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## Holy Cross

7200 N Wall ST  
Spokane, WA,

# Events

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**OCT** **Rosary** 01:30AM - 02:00PM

**18**

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Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church  
200 N. Dale Road, Moses Lake, WA, US

**OCT** **Mass** 02:00PM

**18**

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Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church  
200 N. Dale Road, Moses Lake, WA, US

**OCT** **Graveside Service** 02:00PM

**19**

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Holy Cross  
7200 N Wall ST, Spokane, WA, US

# Comments

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“ To our friend Mary Shannon from our days at GU. What an amazing life your mother lived. You and the entire Morse family will be in our thoughts and prayers. We lost track of you after you relocated to Moses Lake and it would be good to see you again. As a volunteer for the blood center in Spokane I get to Moses Lake about six times a month so perhaps we could connect for lunch. We were always fascinated by your stories about the family sheep ranch at Winthrop. If you have the chance try to connect and we'll catch each other up on all the goings-on over the past many years.  
Jim & Charlotte Mansfield  
Spokane  
mansfield@gonzaga.edu

Jim & Charlotte Mansfield - October 17, 2019 at 10:12 PM

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“ I could write a book about our amazing encounters with Teddy, but, will only share a couple of fun memories. It all came together when we moved back to ML around 2004. My parents also moved to Poplar Sands, another neighbor's parents moved to Poplar Sands as well and Teddy moved to ML to be near Mary and family. We decided to help our parents make friends in their new surroundings, so we invited Emmett & Mildred, Bob Trask, Teddy, and my parents, Mervin & Georgia (along with our new neighborhood friends) to a barbecue in our backyard. The six of our parents visited for hours sharing their memories and stories of WWII, their early retirement years, their travels & RVing. They became good friends and enjoyed many activities together, including trips to the Masquers Theater in SL. My mother adored her friendships with Mildred and Teddy.  
Teddy also loved to flirt with my husband, Mike and would say, "If I were younger, I'd marry him." I'd remind her, "He's taken." And we'd all laugh. She was a pistol and I loved her sharp mind and her amazing sense of humor.  
Our prayers and love are with you, Mary, Larry, Annie, Katie, Kelly and all your family. I know without a doubt you treasure the legacy she left to you and future generations.  
Mike & Joyce

Joyce Mulliken - October 17, 2019 at 06:39 PM

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“ Dear Mary, Larry and family; I met your Mom several times when we had haircuts together. What a delightful lady, and her energy level amazed me. Yes, she was a storyteller. I did hear about the cows and sheep...she asked me if I was a farm gal, told her yes, horses, cows, sheep, and goats!! Wow, that got our conversation started!! She was a sweet lady, and a pleasure to have met her. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Cathy & Paul

Cathy Kersey - October 17, 2019 at 03:39 PM

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“ 26 files added to the album Memories Album



Katie Phipps - October 17, 2019 at 12:00 PM

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“ 20 files added to the album Memories Album



October 17, 2019 at 11:11 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Katie Phipps - October 17, 2019 at 10:56 AM