



Erma Louise Christensen

August 13, 1928 - July 30, 2020

Erma Louise Wirt Christensen, of Royal City, WA, passed away July 30, 2020, at the home of her son, Gary Christensen.

Erma Louise Wirt was born in 1928, the daughter of Julius and Mildred Wirt in Iowa. She was welcomed by her older brother, Don Wirt, and later helped welcome her younger brother, Bob Wirt. She spent most of her early years in Mediapolis, Iowa, with a few years in Oakville, Iowa.

In high school, they moved to Kittitas, Washington, where she met Jay L. Christensen. The Wirt family moved back to Mediapolis but Erma and Jay kept in touch while he served in the Marines. Washington called the Wirt family back again; and Jay and Erma were married in 1947. They lived in Kittitas until 1957 when they moved to the Royal Slope. They were pioneers. Their farm ground started as sage brush. It was hard work but an opportunity for growth. Jay worked with his brothers, Dee, Ted and Bob Christensen.

While in Kittitas, their family grew. Four children were born while they lived in Kittitas; first, a son, Gerald, (Gary); then a daughter, Wendy; another daughter, Debra, and another son, Eric. After moving to Royal, they had Lori and later, Daren joined the family. Erma loved that they were surrounded by family, Jay's brothers, and mother. Erma and Lucy had a special relationship. It was hard for her to leave her parents and brothers in Kittitas, but she kept weekly visits

to Kittitas as a priority.

Family was supreme in Erma's life. She was never happier than when the family was together—the more the merrier. She will be remembered for lemon drops, gummy bears, chocolate chip cookies, and popcorn. Erma loved to sew, read, and do various types of handwork.

Erma was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She served in many capacities. Jay and Erma served as the President and Companion of the San Diego Mission from 1990-1993. They also served as President and Matron of the Boise, Idaho Temple from 1993-1996.

Both of her parents, older brother and husband preceded her in death. She is survived by her six children, Gary and Aurilla Christensen of Royal City, WA; Wendy and Pat Halpin of Olympia, WA; Debra and Paul Bergeson of Royal City, WA; Eric and Joni Christensen of St. George, Utah; Lori and Dee Winder of Lehi, Utah;, and Daren and Nancy Christensen of Royal City, WA; 32 grandchildren, 91 great-grandchildren with four more on the way, and 7 great-great-grandchildren. Her brother, Bob and Geri Wirt reside in Monroe, WA. She is beloved by numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held in Royal Camp and is by invitation only.

Tribute Wall

TF

“ I served the California San Diego mission. Erma was a great cook for us missionaries when we came in the mission home. It was a wonderful time for me. I know Erma is doing missionary work on the other side of the veil. Along with her husband. I will see her again .

Tracy Franklin - September 12, 2021 at 01:19 PM

DT

“ I served in the California San Diego Mission under the loving leadership of President and Sister Christensen. Sister Christensen was full of fun, understanding, and had great love for all of us missionaries. She was a natural leader and had a great warmth about her. I will always have fond memories of serving with the Christensen's.

Debi Kendall Thorpe - December 23, 2020 at 12:02 AM

DB

“ So sorry for the loss of your Mom and Grandma. Aunt Erma was one very, very special woman, so gentle and kind, and with a never ending smile!! Blessings to the family.

Donna Basteys - August 13, 2020 at 07:19 PM

FS

“ Sending our condolences to your family. We were blessed to have known such a wonderful and considerate person such as Erma. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time.

Fouad and Patricia Shaker

Fouad Shaker - August 10, 2020 at 02:32 PM



“ Wendy, my condolences to the entire family. God bless you.
Kathe Waters (Turk)

Katherine Waters - August 07, 2020 at 07:53 AM



“ It is with sorrow to hear of the passing of such a great lady. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the whole family. We have so many wonderful memories of her. May her legacy live on forever.

Dennis Killian - August 06, 2020 at 01:36 AM



“ My love and condolences go out to the entire Christensen family. The time I spent with your family has a special place in my heart. Irma is an Angel and she will be missed.

Vicki Hickman

Vicki Hickman - August 05, 2020 at 04:16 AM



“ I shared some memories but it isn't here. Helen Gene sabin

helen gene sabin - August 04, 2020 at 09:26 PM

LB

“ Oh our dear Erma, how we lived her. Our time serving together in the San Diego mission was truly one of they highlights of our lives. It was a double blessing when they were called as Boise Idaho Temple president and Matron at the same time we were moving back to Boise!



Erma was everything wrapped up in one package. She was spunky, funny, compassionate, loyal, loved her family fiercely and was a true friend. Our lives have been richly blessed by her. We loved her family as well. So thankful for wonderful people in this world. Our hearts are full! Until we see her again, God bless you all!
Ralph and Lorraine Ball

lorraibe Ball - August 04, 2020 at 09:24 AM

BW

“ Jay and Erma; great counsel, greater example. Bill & Mary Waites

Bill & Mary Waites - August 01, 2020 at 09:58 AM

SC

Erma's passing, while inevitable, signals a profound loss to all who knew her and especially her family. We have all been blessed throughout the years by her goodness and enduring example. Oh how we all loved and appreciated Erma, her wise and dedicated husband, Jay, and her family that will no doubt carry on her legacy.

Shirley Dean Christensen - August 03, 2020 at 06:20 PM

DL

Erma was a woman who blessed so many lives. So happy I was one of them. She was a great listener and a cheerleader for all. What Jay and Erma did for me will always be cherished. Condolences to Erma's family.

DeeAnn Andersen Lublin - August 04, 2020 at 03:29 PM

HS

*We go way back to high school days! So many fond memories! A few of us couples had a monthly hair cutting and dinner get togethers. Someone they knew had been to Arizona and discovered tacos. Never had seen one or eaten one but she had some of us over to Royal for tacos. I accused her of getting me hooked on Mexican food! Thought they were so good as did we all. Will really miss her! You live to be this age and family and friends are no longer here. Really sad times! 😞😞
My condolences and prayers to the whole family! 🙏🙏🙏🙏*

helen gene sabin - August 04, 2020 at 09:16 PM