



Helen Bruce

November 24, 1926 - July 1, 2022

Helen Bruce passed away peacefully on the morning of July 1, 2022, in Kennewick, Washington at the age of 95.

Helen was born in Afton, Wyoming on November 24, 1926 being raised in Star Valley near Smoot Wyoming. She was the third child of Harry Delbert Johnson and Cleo Roberts. She was married to her high school sweetheart James Orson Bruce in the Logan Utah Temple on February 15, 1945 and graduated from high school in June of 1945. She was a loving mother of five children. Her primary occupation was homemaker, helping on a daily basis with chores of milking cows and farm related work in addition to taking care of the children. She and James moved to Moses Lake, Washington on January 6, 1956. Later they took advantage of a federal land reclamation project, receiving a small farm in the Warden area. They were required to homestead a small house on the land for one year, without running water, to take possession of the land. After completing their one-year homestead they returned to live at their original residence on the peninsula in the Moses Lake 1st Ward.

Her life drastically changed with the death of her husband in a construction accident in November of 1966. She continued to run the Knolls Vista Tasty Freeze and shortly thereafter started attending Big Bend Community College. She graduated with an Associates of Arts degree and continued her education at Central Washington State College receiving a Bachelor of Arts in education in 1973. She was a first-grade elementary school teacher at Columbia Ridge

Elementary in Ephrata for 18 years until 1991. Upon retiring from education, she had more time to spend on genealogy and family history work. That love inspired her to serve a two-year mission in Scotland for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

She supported and encouraged her children to be active in local events including athletic participation with Little League and school sports. Music was one of her true loves and she enjoyed playing and sharing her knowledge of piano with her great-grandchildren. She spent many hours helping and teaching her grandchildren and great-grandchildren to play the piano. She received tremendous joy and satisfaction in seeing her grandchildren develop their piano skills. Over the years she was very involved and dedicated to her home ward. She served in numerous callings over the years such as Primary Teacher, Young Women's President, and Extraction Leader.

Helen is preceded in death by her husband James Bruce and her daughter Kathy Ritchie. She is survived by her children Doug Bruce (Linda), Terry Bruce (Ronda), Beth Bjork (Tom), Randy Bruce, her 24 grandchildren, and 51 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 AM on Friday, July 8th and the Stake Center for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1515 S. Division St., Moses Lake, Washington with graveside service to follow.

There will be a public viewing on Friday from 9:00 AM until 9:45 AM.

Please express your thoughts and memories for the family at www.kayserschapel.com. Arrangements are under the care of Kayser's Chapel of Memories of Moses Lake, WA.

To attend the service via zoom go to <https://zoom.us/j/96452405321>-

Cemetery Details

Pioneer Memorial Gardens

14403 Rd. 2 Ne
Moses Lake, WA

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 8. 9:00 AM (PT)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1515 South Division St.
Moses Lake, WA 98837

Service

JUL 8. 10:00 AM (PT)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1515 South Division St.
Moses Lake, WA 98837

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Terry my friend, My heart and prayers go out to you and your family.

Dale Miller - July 20, 2022 at 03:14 AM

DM

“ Dale Miller lit a candle in memory of Helen Bruce



Dale Miller - July 20, 2022 at 03:12 AM

GO

“ To Beth,
My condolences and sympathies to you and family for your loss of your mother. My best wishes and thoughts are with my friend Beth.

Gordy Hattori

Gordy - July 05, 2022 at 07:16 PM

WH

“ When I think of Aunt Helen, the first thought that comes to mind is her infectious laugh. She was always so pleasant to be with and I enjoyed visiting with her a lot. Aunt Helen reminds me of the beautiful qualities of a grand sister in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Wynn Harrison - July 05, 2022 at 03:03 PM



Randy and Beth, Sorry to hear about your mom! May she enjoy her rest!

Bruce Literal - July 06, 2022 at 09:55 AM

SO

*Will never forget our trip
To take the YW to Utah! We went to the Manti Pagent! After ward we
drove to a member's home to stay the night! Helen and Sue Jones
were afraid Alice Millspaugh and I would fall asleep driving so "they
took Nodoze so they could keep us awake!" When we arrived at our
destination the two of them giggled for hours into the night! Not sure
what time they fell asleep, but Alice & I tried a long time to go to sleep!
We were really tired! But they giggled for hours! Loved working with
Helen in Young Women!*

Sheri Osburn - July 07, 2022 at 04:17 PM

AM

*To Helen's family. What a great lady. Remember when we took girls to
Manti to see the pagent. What a great laugh even the night we wanted
to sleep after a long day of driving. She is at peace now.*

Alice Millspaugh - July 07, 2022 at 04:26 PM

AM

Oops she had

Alice Millspaugh - July 07, 2022 at 04:26 PM