



Linda Wheeler

April 29, 1928 - March 12, 2017

Linda B. Wheeler of Moses Lake, 88, died Sunday, March 12, 2017 at Samaritan Hospital in Moses Lake. Formerly, she had resided in Ellensburg and Othello.

Linda was born April 29, 1928 in Sterling, Illinois to John and Julia Backman. She grew up in rural Minnesota and graduated from Wheaton High School in 1946. She worked as a telephone operator, then married John Hawley Wheeler on August 21, 1948. They farmed in Minnesota until moving out west to Seattle in 1956 with many members of John's extended family. They made a loving and safe home for their four children wherever they lived, spending the longest time in Othello from the early 1970s until 2004. In each location, they made it a priority to find a church home. John and Linda were noted for their generosity, and many of the people they met became extended family. Linda worked in many occupations. She sold Avon products, was employed as a teacher's aide, was a department store photographer, and served as a technician in a potato plant quality control laboratory. Her main goal in retirement was to keep family and friends connected, visiting many people and writing many notes full of encouragement and love.

John, her husband, suffered disability and many health problems, and Linda was daily at his side through it all. She lost him in 2007; their marriage spanned some 59 years.

Linda is survived by her four children (and their spouses)—son David Wheeler of Ellensburg, daughter Doris Corlett (Tom) of Fall City, daughter Dulcie

Heinzmann (Max) of Moses Lake, and son Darwen Wheeler (Lori) of Othello. Grandchildren include Elizabeth Belisle (Don), Daniel Corlett, Andrew Corlett, Misty Fuller (Paul), Sarah Mendoza (Jack), Michelle Wheeler (Shelby), Erica Wheeler, Meredith Heinzmann (Cole Miller), and Makiah Heinzmann. Great-grandchildren include Victoria, Jace, Kiersten, Wyatt, Julianne, and Owen Belisle; Nickolas and Addisyn Fuller; Cinthia, Jackson, and Joselyn Mendoza.

Linda loved gardening and flowers, sharing the beautiful things she grew with others. She is known far and wide as a gregarious, friendly, outgoing lady with a big heart, always guided by her faith in Jesus. While she leaves many dear relatives and friends behind, Linda has now joined those beloved who have gone before her.

Open to all, a memorial service celebrating Linda's life will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1020 South A Street, Moses Lake, Washington, at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 29, 2017. In lieu of gifts or flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Othello Christian Preschool, 835 South 10th Avenue, Othello, WA 99344. The family wishes to extend their gratitude to the health care personnel who helped Linda in so many ways.

Previous Events

Service

APR **29**. 2:00 PM (PT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1020 S. A Street
Moses Lake, WA

Tribute Wall

JR

“ So very sad to hear we lost Linda! What a wonderful, special lady. She will be sorely missed by everyone who knew her. We are grateful that she is now resting with the Lord. My thoughts and prayers are with her children and grandchildren. Holding you all in my heart, Julie Jelmberg Rose

Julie Rose - April 09, 2017 at 11:34 AM

IU

“ Oh my how do I say what is in my or our hearts with this news?? very heavy,,,seems such a short time being we didn't get connected for so many yrs,,but cherish what we got...our trip back to get reacquainted wth some & shared some Special times they opened our hearts & times keeping us informed so precious to us will treasure always!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!hugs to all from the twigs & us also one twig Tyler shared her birthday One twig Trever her trip to heaven's gates so special to us all our hearts Forever will catch up when we join both her & John Yes
!

Iva Larry as John called us - March 20, 2017 at 02:27 PM

PZ

“ My deepest sympathies to Linda's family. She was a friend of my Mom Joanne Zanter. They really enjoyed each others company and church activities together. Thoughts and prayers to you. Linda will surely be missed.

Paula Zanter-Stout - March 13, 2017 at 05:50 PM