



## Mary Ellen Breeden

December 24, 1935 - May 4, 2018

### Obituary for Mary Ellen Breeden

Mary Ellen Breeden, 82, longtime Moses Lake resident, passed away on Friday, May 4, 2018 at Central Washington Hospital in Wenatchee, her daughter at her side.

Mary Ellen was born in Spokane, Washington on Christmas Eve, 1935. As a young girl, she lived with her parents, John and Zelma Prichard in Bremerton Washington when her family was building houses to support the war effort. After they moved to Moses Lake, Mary Ellen was involved with 4H, graduated from MLHS 1954 and attended WSU for 2 years.

She met and married to Capt. Carl "Rusty" Breeden when he was stationed at Larson AFB. After they wed, they were stationed at Hill AFB in Ogden Utah, where Capt Breeden was part of the Airforce test pilot program. Sadly he died serving his country, and Mary Ellen and her daughter returned to Moses Lake in 1961.

Throughout her life, Mary Ellen was extremely active in the Columbia Basin community. She loved to work with youth. She served as the Executive Director for Miss Moses Lake Pageant for 35 years. Along with 'the committee' of equally committed volunteers, it was a joyful experience to help the young women of Moses Lake to achieve personal growth, whether it was

going on to Miss Washington and Miss America, or gaining the confidence to pursue career and personal goals, she took pride in being a part of their journey. She often found herself in the leadership position of organizations involving her daughter, including 4H, Girl Scouts and the youth group at the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church. She was involved with in Daughters of the Nile, Eastern Star and Amaranth. She also served for many years on the Grant County Fair Board.

Mary Ellen was known for her culinary skills and she loved to entertain for and with friends. Mary Ellen worked many years in retail, including several at Seasons. When she retired, she was the kitchen manager for Michael's On The Lake. Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Carla and John Conrad; two grandsons, Elliott Conrad and CJ Conrad. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Zelma Prichard and husband, Captain Carl "Rusty" Breeden.

Her Celebration of Life service will be held at the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church at 1142 W. Ivy Avenue Moses Lake on Friday, June 1st at 12 noon. Lunch will be served after the service and everyone is invited to stay and enjoy. In lieu of flowers, consider sponsoring a youth to the MLPC summer camp or making a donation to a favorite local youth program. Please sign the online guestbook or leave a note for the family at [www.kayserschapel.com](http://www.kayserschapel.com) Arrangements are in care of Kayser's Chapel & Crematory.

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 1. 12:00 PM (PT)

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

# Tribute Wall

GC

“ Gregory J Cochran lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden



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**Gregory J Cochran** - April 03, 2020 at 05:17 AM

DP

“ Mary Ellen Breeden was active at the Grant County Fair. Her warm and welcoming face every August helped children during the stress and joys of showing animals. Her leadership was always calming and she made careful decisions to benefit everyone. She helped countless children through her support and dedication to the Fair. Our daughter learned real life lessons through the activities of 4-H, FFA and Fair. Mary Ellen Breeden is remembered fondly and with great respect.

*Steve, Danna and Dessa Dal Porto*

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**Danna Dal Porto** - June 05, 2018 at 04:54 PM

DW

“ I have great memories of Mary Ellen and Rainbow Girls. She was Mother Advisor during my term as Worthy Advisor, she had such great skill in teaching all of us young girls how to become young ladies. It was a special treat to get a ride in her beautiful blue T-Bird! My sympathy to all of her family.  
*Donna Rigsby Walden*

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**Donna walden** - May 25, 2018 at 11:33 PM

KV

“ Now that woman was some kind of woman! She was a dear childhood friend to my Aunt Cherie Beuckman in Mae Valley, bossy to Cherie's little twin brothers, Dick and Dan Deane, mentor to my best friend, Honey, and MY beloved co-worker at Swartz's. I am lucky that our paths crossed when I was a young adult. With the very best of intentions, Mary Ellen could probe, challenge, question and inspire--all in the same sentence! She was generous and kind, and wanted the best for everyone around her. Mary Ellen Breeden, known as "Pritch" to my father (short for Prichard) was a treasure to me. My sincerest condolences to Carla and Family.

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**Krista Vela** - May 18, 2018 at 12:03 AM

SC

“ What can I say about the person who helped shape me into the person I am today. Mary Ellen was more than a pageant coach to me. She was my coach, boss, butt-kicker, guidance counselor and mentor. I can't put into words how much she meant to me. Her tough exterior didn't match soft interior and I feel very blessed and privileged to know the inside. I'll always love Mary Ellen and all she did for me.  
Thank you Carla for sharing your mom with me and so many other girls. Hugs and prayers for you and your family.

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**Stacy Chamberlain-Ahmann** - May 15, 2018 at 03:26 PM

BM

“ Mary Ellen was a very special friend for Bette and I. We briefly lived with ME and Carla on gem street in 1965. We were close, working together in the pageant and float committee and other endeavors over the last 50 plus years. She will be missed.

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**bert mcatee** - May 14, 2018 at 07:18 PM

AP

“ Dear Carla and Family,  
Your mom was a special lady and one that was well respected and one who was greatly appreciated for all her commitment and dedication she made to the community. She will be missed but we know she is at peace, My thoughts and prayers are will all of your during this difficult time. God Bless you all. Alice Parker

Alice Parker - May 12, 2018 at 03:08 PM

Sharon Zornes

“ Mom B as I called Mary Ellen was a giant of a lady in my life book. She taught me a lot about myself and made me aware that though life can throw lemons it is what you do with them that truly matters. “Suck it up and do not procrastinate with what you have been given to do!” She would tell me. I have tried to apply that in my life to this day. She gave so much of herself to others and was a pillar to our community and touched so many young women like myself who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to go to college. I know I am forever grateful for the times she shared her knowledge, talents, family, and her personal time with me and hope I can do the same for others as she mentored me. Carla and family, my prayers are with you all during this difficult time. May you Rest In Peace dear Lady! It is time you wore your crown.  
Sharon Rogers Zornes- MML 1982-2nd Runner up Miss WA 1983

Sharon Zornes - May 11, 2018 at 04:03 AM

DV

“ Dawn Viebrock lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden



Dawn Viebrock - May 08, 2018 at 02:05 PM


CG

“ *Coralee Gill lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden*



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**Coralee Gill** - May 08, 2018 at 01:05 PM

 Gary Nichols

“ *Gary Nichols lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden*



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**Gary Nichols** - May 08, 2018 at 12:37 AM

KK

“ *Kathy Kalamakis lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden*



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**Kathy Kalamakis** - May 08, 2018 at 12:05 AM

MC

“ *Carla, I have fond memories of the old Horse Show days, the fun you and Chris had competing and especially winning. Your Mom and I proudly cheered you on. I remember the lovely wedding reception at the house on the lake. I remember your Mother and all she did for her community. My sympathy to you and your family. Mary Courtright*

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**Mary Courtright** - May 07, 2018 at 07:40 PM

MH

“ A unique person who impacted our lives and achievements probably more than we realized has gone to coach the Miss Heaven Pageant of 2018. I'm sure she is enlisting Bette, Faye, Lorna, Ruby, and Gene to help her whip those angels into standing tall, walking proudly, and speaking confidently...whether they want to or not. It makes me sad to be so left out. If only there was a way to be a part of that production .....with a round trip ticket.

*A toast now, to a special person, and a special time that connected our lives*

*Our sincere sympathy to you Carla and your family*

*Marilynn*

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**Marilynn Hansen** - May 06, 2018 at 04:04 PM

MH

“ *Marilynn Hansen lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden*



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**Marilynn Hansen** - May 06, 2018 at 04:01 PM

WS

“ *Wendy S. lit a candle in memory of Mary Ellen Breeden*



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**Wendy S.** - May 06, 2018 at 12:57 AM