



Melinda L. Erickson

August 26, 1939 - January 12, 2016

Melinda Lou Erickson, age 76, died peacefully at home on January 12, 2016 after a long battle with heart disease. Melinda was born on August 26, 1939 in Walla Walla, Washington, the daughter of Myron and Marion Harmon.

Melinda graduated from Walla Walla High School and attended Central Washington University where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Education.

It was at CWU where Melinda met the love of her life, Peter T. Erickson. They met on a blind date in 1959 and were married on Melinda's birthday in 1961. In 1963, daughter Kimberly was born.

Pete and Melinda made their home in Moses Lake, both working for the Moses Lake School District. Melinda taught Kindergarten, First, and Second grade for 17 years. Her second career led her to work for Basin Real Estate and Property Management for eight years. She then went on to work at Berry's Department Store. Melinda enjoyed working with the public. She was outgoing, always remembered your name, and loved helping people pick out gifts and items for their homes. She had a list of "regulars" she would call when new Eddy Walker pieces would arrive at the store. She retired when the store closed.

Melinda loved working in her yard and received many compliments on her landscaping. It was common for people to ask if she cut her grass with manicure scissors since the lawn was always perfect. She was an avid sports fan. She enjoyed watching baseball and Seahawk football; Steve Largent was her favorite player. However, nothing could keep her away from the TV when Gonzaga was playing. Go ZAGS!

Melinda had two granddaughters that were the love of her life. She attended every activity and event; always ready to cheer from the bleachers.

Melinda was a member of the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church and was an active volunteer for many Rotary events.

Melinda is survived by her husband, Peter, daughter Kimberly (Paul) Garza, and granddaughters, Hailey and Jalen.

Melinda was preceded in death by her parents, Myron and Marion, as well as a brother, Winton.

A service is scheduled for Monday, January 18, 2016 at 2:00pm at the Moses Lake Presbyterian Church, 1142 W. Ivy Avenue. Please sign the online guestbook or leave a note for the family at www.kayserschapel.com Arrangements are in care of Kayser's Chapel & Crematory.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Melinda's name to the Moses Lake Rotary Scholarship Foundation, P.O. Box 525, Moses Lake, WA 98837

Previous Events

Service

JAN 18. 2:00 PM (PT)

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

Tribute Wall

CH

“ Dear Pete and Kim,

Lori and I were out of town when Melinda's memorial service was held and were very sorry to have missed it. Your wife and mom was a really wonderful lady. She excelled at many things, but I think I knew her best as a very loved and active grandmother to the girls, and being a wonderful grandmother is very special. It extends her legacy far into the future and must be part of God's comfort for you in this loss.

I had spoken to Melinda at Safeway just a few months ago, and she had shared that she had the same heart issues my mom did. She shared that without bitterness or anger, and was as concerned with my mother as much as she seemed concerned about her own prognosis. That spoke volumes to me.

May God extend his grace and comforting presence to you both, and to the whole family. Heaven beckons more that it used to, doesn't it?

Chris and Lori Hendricks

Chris Hendricks - January 27, 2016 at 08:32 PM

LB

“ Dear Kimberly and Pete...

I have fond childhood memories of your family and would like to express my condolences and send light and love to all of you. I haven't seen you for many years, but you still hold a special place in my heart. I live in Hawaii now, but someday hope to visit you.

Laurie Boyle

Laurie Boyle - January 23, 2016 at 11:44 AM

DD

“ Dear Pete, Kim and family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you.
~Debbie Doran-Martinez

Debbie Doran-Martinez - January 20, 2016 at 04:30 PM

MT

“ Pete- I am truly so very sorry for the loss of Melinda. I am so thankful to have been able to get to know her and experience the amazing woman she was. She is now at peace and will be waiting for us. My prayers and thoughts go out to you and your family.

Michelle Tougeron - January 19, 2016 at 03:23 PM

DH

“ Mr Erickson, I am so sad, hearing of Mrs Erickson's passing. I'm thinking of your family during this difficult time. She was so proud of her amazing grandkids! I will always remember my sweet kindergarten teacher and the impact she has had on my last 41 years. Every time I've seen her since I was 5, I've been greeted with that huge smile and a hug that I have no words for....I will always miss her, and always be thankful I got start my education learning from her.
All my love,
Darci

darci homesley - January 18, 2016 at 03:06 PM

EW

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family during this difficult time. I loved Melinda, I used to shop at Berry's and it was always fun to see her, she always had that beautiful smile and fun conversation. In later years we always seemed to meet at Safeway always with that sane fun smile, she just had a way of making you feel good. Awesome quality, she will be missed by many. So sorry for you Kim and family.

Prayers,
Emily Webster

Emily Webster - January 18, 2016 at 01:15 PM

JB

“ Dear Pete and Family
Willy and I offer our heartfelt condolences upon the loss of your life's partner, wife and mother Melinda. There are many tributes we can offer but Willy, in particular, recalled the warm hospitality Melinda offered when we were on an official visit in Moses Lake. We offer you our thoughts and prayers.

Jeff and Willy

Jeff den Biesen - January 17, 2016 at 08:07 PM

VS

“ Our prayers are with you and the family during this time, we will always remember all the kindness that Melinda showed to all the people she encountered. Remember the good times. Vern and Barbara Sandmann

vern sandmann - January 17, 2016 at 12:39 PM

JR

“ *Pete, So sorry to hear of Melinda's passing. She was a great lady. May you find peace and comfort each day from the memories of your years together.*

John & Debbie Redford

John Redford - January 17, 2016 at 09:45 AM

KG

“ *Pete,
So sorry to hear of Melinda's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Will miss her smile, laughter and you and her walking together.*

Kathy Garrett

Kathy Garrett - January 16, 2016 at 05:58 PM

CC

“ *My prayers and hugs go out to the family... She was a beautiful person and such a neat lady and I just loved visiting with her... So sorry Kim for you and your family's loss.*

Cheryl Cox - January 16, 2016 at 05:31 PM

BL

“ *My sincere condolences to Pete and the family. The loss of a wife and mother can be hard to bear. It's one day at a time.*

Bob Lemon - January 16, 2016 at 12:52 PM



“ *Melinda Was such a great lady always smiling I enjoyed visiting with her everytime she came in to the bistro , and at the marketplace Enjoy your memories of a special person.*

Donna Anderson - January 14, 2016 at 10:22 PM

CK

“ *Dear Pete, Kim, and family; We are so sorry to hear the loss of Melinda. She was a remarkable person to all that knew her. Her radiant smile, sparkling eyes, unpretentious and humble manner, warm and cheerful personality, and tireless energy, brought sunshine into every room she entered. She had a boundless spirit, joy for life, and unconditional love for her family and friends. Melinda was truly unique, one of a kind. She will be missed beyond description. Although she has been called home, she will never be forgotten. I used to love to shop at Berry's. Loved the Eddy Walker "stuff", and Melinda could sell you anything, that you were not intending to buy. Our thoughts and prayer are with all of you!! Cathy & Paul Kersey*

Cathy Kersey - January 14, 2016 at 08:16 PM

CH

“ *Our sympathy to you and Kimberly Pete. Your in our thoughts and Prayers Our condolence to you Kimberly and Family. Charlotte Hauff and Family.*



Charlotte Hauff - January 14, 2016 at 07:47 PM

AP

“ Dear Pete and Kim,
I just read in the paper about Melinda's passing. I am so sorry to hear that. She was a great person and so enjoyable to work with. She became a good friend when we both worked at Basin Real Estate and Basin Property Management. My thoughts and prayers are will all of you. My Sincere Condolences.
Alice Parker

Alice Parkre - January 14, 2016 at 07:18 PM

CK

“ Pete, we received news of Melinda's death yesterday. What can we say but that we're sorry, and we wish the best for you and your daughter.

Corwin and Marianne King

corwin king - January 14, 2016 at 06:23 PM

BJ

“ Lisa and I are thinking of you and your family Pete. You and Melinda were committed to service and she made a difference in our world. Take time to heal and we hope to see you soon
Bill Jenkin DGN

Bill Jenkin - January 14, 2016 at 10:30 AM

EM

“ We will hold dear her bright, spunky, positive, energetic, empowering, infectious, cheerful and kind spirit. The way she joyously championed others and sincerely enjoyed life and family remains a testament to her posture of love and service. I hope Heaven was ready for this industrious, irreplaceable, dynamo! Farewell Melinda. My deep sympathy to Pete, Kim and family. With prayers and love,
Elisabeth Strole Murrell

Elisabeth Strole Murrell - January 14, 2016 at 12:37 AM

GL

“ Dear Pete

It is with great sadness that we convey our sincere condolences to you and your family for your painful loss. Words seem inadequate to express the sadness we feel about Melinda's death. We are here To support you in your grieving process.

With sincere sympathy

*Greg Luring Rotary District Governor 5060
On behalf of 2,800 Rotarians in Central Washington and Central
British Columbia*

Greg Luring - January 14, 2016 at 12:13 AM

JW

“ Kim - so sorry to hear this. I am praying for you and your family.

Julie Weisenburg - January 13, 2016 at 06:53 PM

RD

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Melinda was such a sweet lady.*



Ruth Dasch - January 13, 2016 at 03:35 PM