



Evelyn Mae Harper

March 4, 1928 - September 9, 2025

Evelyn Mae Van Hise was born March 4, 1928 to Henry Van Hise and Edith Long in the town of Wall, South Dakota. She was the youngest of four children: a sister, Pauline, her brother, James, who died at the age of six, and another sister, Geraldine. The family soon moved to Chemult, Oregon during the Great Depression. Evelyn tells of her early childhood growing up in a lumber mill camp cabin nearby in Mowitch where her father was the foreman in the planer mill. In Chemult, the family owned a small motel. As a little girl, she waited tables in the motel cafe where her mother was manager and cook. The family then moved to Medford, Oregon during Evelyn's teen years. She graduated from Medford High School. Her father was the millwright in a lumber mill for many years. While grocery shopping with her mother, Evelyn met and became friendly with the young man at the cash register, Loyal Galen Harper. They were married June 16, 1945 in Medford, Oregon while Loyal was on a two week leave from the Navy at the end of the second world war. They built their own first home with a few hand tools and a little help from some of Loyal's brothers. They repeated this process of building a new home, living in it for only two or three years, and then selling at a good profit, several times. Loyal's day job was a dental lab technician. The family moved to Grants Pass, Oregon where he owned his own dental lab. In later years, they owned a jewelry store in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Evelyn will be remembered for her skillet fried chicken, potato salad, and deep dish apple pie. She became an expert wedding cake decorator. She was an excellent seamstress. She

taught everyone how to water-ski. She was a school bus driver, a deer hunter, and helped Loyal raise a few cows for the dinner table. Evelyn loved genealogical research and amassed several notebooks full of records and family information. Evelyn was very happy to be a wife and homemaker. She was so proud of her four sons and their wives, Steve and Terri, Brian and Shauna, Tim and Beth, and Brent and Nancy. Her husband Loyal passed away rather suddenly in 2005. Evelyn continued in Grants Pass for a short time, then moved to Boise, Idaho, then to West Jordan, Utah, then to Corvallis, Oregon, and finally to Lebanon, Oregon. She has 23 grandchildren and an ever-increasing number of descendants. Evelyn passed away at home on September 9, 2025. She felt the most important thing in her life in addition to her family was her testimony of Jesus Christ and her membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She served in many positions in the church over the years and was a powerful support to her husband as he served in leadership positions. Evelyn and Loyal served a short church mission in and around Spokane, Washington. Her favorite service in the church was when she worked in the Boise Idaho Temple. She said more than once the most important date in her life was June 26, 1957 when she and Loyal and her boys were “sealed” to be an eternal family in the Los Angeles California Temple. Her son Tim preceded her in death in 2023. She is now together with her husband and all others of her eternal family who have previously passed.

Cemetery Details

Memory Gardens Memorial Park

1395 Arnold Lane
Medford, OR 97501

Previous Events

Graveside Service

SEP **22**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

Memory Gardens Memorial Park
1395 Arnold Lane
Medford, OR 97501

Online Memorial Service

SEP **25**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM.

Please join us for an online memorial service using the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83507863373?pwd=bZ8m2ptX7FIdVTGRVRwrnOy3atzUq.1>

Tribute Wall

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“ The Harper family wishes to announce the passing of Evelyn Mae Van Hise Harper on September 9, 2025. She lived a long and fruitful life of 97 years 6 months and is now with her beloved husband, Loyal, and her son, Tim. She is survived by her son, Steve and his wife Terri, by her son Brian and his wife Shauna, by her daughter-in-law Beth, and by her son Brent and his wife Nancy, as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to family, Evelyn had many friends and acquaintances, and we have no means to contact many of those people. Would you please take a few moments right away and forward this message to whomever you know that might be interested? Without your help, this email may not even reach some of the grandchildren and great-grandchildren in a timely way.

The interment and graveside ceremony will take place on Monday, September 22, 2025 at 1:00 pm at Memory Gardens Memorial Park & Mortuary, 1395 Arnold Lane, Medford, OR 97501. The dedication of the grave will be quite brief and is intended primarily for the family, however, anyone who wishes is encouraged to attend. There will be some time around the grave immediately after to share impromptu short memories of Evelyn by whoever desires.

In order to minimize the travel involved and give the greatest number the opportunity to view it, the memorial and celebration of life will be an online meeting on Zoom. This will be held on Thursday evening, September 25, 2025 at 6:00 pm pacific time. Please click on the following link just prior to join the meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83507863373?pwd=bZ8m2ptX7FIdVTGRVRwrnOy3atzYUq.1>

We expect this meeting to last about one hour, and expect to have additional time after for those who wish to remain online to share very brief (no more than a minute or two) memories. This will probably be a large meeting and there will likely be a number of

people who want to do this. Use the Zoom "raise your hand" feature and the moderator will recognize you in turn. Of course, to participate your computer must have a camera and microphone (often built-in). Until then, make sure your audio and video are turned off so you don't disturb others during the meeting.

The obituary will be available in the next couple of days on the following website:

<https://www.mchenryfuneralhome.com/obituaries/evelyn-harper-9/#!/Obituary>

This site also offers a place to post memories, photos, and even video and audio files relating to Evelyn so that all can reminisce. We strongly encourage you to add something and to see what others have added. The Zoom meeting and memories that follow will also be recorded and posted here for later viewing.

*Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers,
The Harper Family*

Steve Harper - September 12, 2025 at 06:40 PM