



Helen L. Cleveland

September 11, 1927 - July 6, 2013

Helen Lucile Cleveland, 85, passed away on July 6, 2013, at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice House in Albany, after a short illness.

Helen was born to Edward and Lora Dell Ochs in Los Angeles, Calif. She grew up in Los Angeles, where she was a straight-A student and concert violinist, and worked at many department stores, where she learned floral arrangement and custom gift wrap.

She loved to sew, quilt, crochet and do other crafty things.

She was a giving person, a gleaner for 40 years, worked on the Board of Commissioners for several years, and a senior companion in Benton County. She earned many awards from the American Red Cross for her compassion and dedication. She received an award from President Obama in appreciation of her civic commitment to strengthening our nation and making a difference through her volunteer services.

She met Gregorio Gonzales in 1955 at a hot dog stand, where they fell in love at first sight and decided to join their families. They lived many years in Felton, Calif., running a carpet-cleaning business, before moving to Alpine to raise their seven children. Helen lost the love of her life to his battle with cancer, on July 15, 1992.

She met Grover Cleveland, her friend, companion and love, to share her autumn years with. Grover preceded her in death, along with her daughter, Helena Gonzales-Pugh.

Helen is survived by their children, Anna Lee Gonzales-Rowe and husband, McKinley, Dennis Wyland and his wife, June, Gregorio Gonzales Jr. and his wife, Deb, Paul Gonzales and his wife, Katrina, Grace Gonzales-Crawford and husband, David, Elbert Bruce Gonzales and wife, Gloria, Lee Cleveland and wife, Evelyn, Kenneth Cleveland and wife, Sue, Carol Cleveland, David Cleveland and wife, Jinana, and Jean Cleveland; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Samaritan Evergreen Hospice House of Albany, Senior Companions or South Benton County Gleaners would be appreciated.

A memorial service will take place at 11 a.m.

Saturday, July 13, at Alpine Cemetery in Alpine.

A celebration of life potluck is to follow at 1 p.m. at Bellfountain County Park, 24849 Park Road, Monroe, OR 97456.

Tribute Wall



“Helen I knew you since I was 6 or 7, your family was like a 2nd family to me. From the Alpine Riders days to you giving me tips on Spanish before I left for Spain. I still remember..house white not white house . You will be missed by many but you will be here still in hearts and memories.

Debbie (cox) - July 11, 2013 at 03:17 AM