



Lorraine Garrison

May 26, 1936 - January 26, 2022

On Jan. 26, @ 4:30 am, just exactly 4 months shy of her 86th birthday, Lorraine Janet Rayton Garrison passed away peacefully at Corvallis Good Samaritan hospital.

Lorraine was born May 26th, 1936, in Chehalis, WA to Charles T. Rayton & Jennie S. Keto Rayton. She was active in many clubs, including 4-H, Rainbow Girls, the Youth Group of the First Baptist Church, and attended Chehalis Senior High in Washington State. Her love of music throughout her life, learning piano as a young girl, playing the organ at her church in Chehalis was a passion, and was very involved in all music programs playing the organ, piano, and also enjoyed singing in the choir. She passed on her love of music to her children and grandchildren. Her kids remember many family vacations singing in the car and around the campfire. She was also self-taught on the accordion and electronic keyboard, playing many times in nursing homes with friends and family and numerous church events.

Lorraine started her work life picking strawberries and babysitting, then in 10th grade got a clerical job for the Chehalis Canning Co.

Attending Linfield College in McMinnville, and Oregon State College in Corvallis, rounded out her higher educational interests in home economics education. While at Linfield, she met her husband of 65 years, Robert L. Garrison. They were married June 8, 1957 and both transferred to OSU to start married life.

They joined Calvin Presbyterian Church in February 1961. It was the heart

and soul of their family and social life. She taught Bible school, Sunday school and worked with the youth and various women's groups, including Women's Aglow, Basic Youth Conflicts, Up with People, and Jesus Northwest among others. Lorraine played the piano and organ in Chehalis and at Calvin for over 50 years.

She did substitute clerical work at many of the schools in 509-J District in Benton County for two years. She then got a full-time job at Crescent Valley High School for 10 years assisting in the Career Counseling Center and was Coordinator of the Youth Employment Services.

One of Lorraine's most treasured values was her relationship with the Lord throughout her entire life. She read & studied the Bible, as well as taught many Bible groups in the church and in their home. Her life was a beautiful example of God's love and she shared that with anyone she had the opportunity to talk to and pray with.

Lorraine was quite active as a 4-H leader for both girls and boys. She used her Home Economics Degree working with kids in sewing, cooking, baking, meal-planning, & entertaining while her children were in school. She was involved in the OSU Extension Service and the Home Economics Association for many years. She was also a clothing Judge at most County Fairs in Western Oregon and at the Oregon State Fair.

Her second most valued treasure was her relationships with others. She maintained friendships throughout her life with friends and family that she had known since childhood. Her love of writing as well as talking on the phone enabled her to keep up with many family members and friends that she continued to stay in contact with her entire life. Family life also included hosting multiple students, teachers, traveling musicians and missionaries from Japan to Alaska, Europe to Africa. Her family was very important to her. Lorraine & Bob were very involved in her grandchildren's lives. They attended as many of the kids school and sports performances as possible. It was always a highlight in their lives to be able to hear their grandchildren perform

in their choir and band performances.

When Bob retired from the Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife they revamped their home vegetable garden into a floral showpiece, joining multiple Garden tours for the Corvallis Evening Garden Club, and were very active in garden sales.

She is survived by her husband Robert and 3 children; Sandra Garrison-Whitmore, of Portland, Suzanne Pomeroy, of McMinnville, and William (Bill) Garrison, of Logston, and 7 grandchildren, her pride and joys.

No service will be held at this time. There will be a celebration of life memorial held at Calvin Presbyterian at a later date. If you wish details of this celebration when known, contact sashia2014@gmail.com. Please leave online condolences at McHenry Funeral Home website.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 14. 2:00 PM (PT)

Calvin Presbyterian
1736 NW Dixon St.
Corvallis, OR 97330

Tribute Wall

MC

“ *Lorraine was a very special woman of God. She will be greatly missed. My heartfelt condolences to Bob and all of her children and grandchildren. Mary (North) Church*

Mary (North) Church - February 04, 2022 at 11:40 AM

BE

“ *Mrs. Garrison has always had a special place in my heart. When I was in high school not very many teachers or staff had much faith in me. She was always there for kind words and encouragement. I felt she was one of the few people who believed I could make something of myself. I will never forget how kind she was. I was lucky enough to run into her at a plant sale a few years ago and I told her how much I appreciated her. Rest in peace and thank you.*

Beth - February 03, 2022 at 06:12 PM

SP

“ A poem written by Lorraine's' granddaughter Kylie Pomeroy for her "Maash" on January 28, 2022.

*To be loved
So effortlessly*

*She is an ocean
So vast and full of beauty
Her waves of hope and joy crash onto our shores
Even in the most violent storms*

*To be loved
So effortlessly*

*A blessing
Disguised as an angel
I knew she came from heaven
Blessed us with her spirit
When she holds me her wings wrap around
Completely
So soft, so pure
I am so safe here*

*To be loved
So effortlessly*

*The aromatics of her soul rise up from flowers
The heavenly scents always lingering
One breath would leave you in a trance
Of peace, of solitude*

*To be loved
So effortlessly*

*Oh love, what will you do now?
Will you use your waters to reach us in our hearts?*

*Will you use your wings to help us see from above?
Will you use your flowers to ground our feet?
And intoxicate us with a love so pure*

To be loved

You lucky angel

So effortlessly

*You reach as many as you have
Impact them for the better
No need to wonder what heaven is like
For you have already shown me*

*To love
so effortlessly*

*You reach into our very souls
Heal all the broken pieces
Say, "Look how beautiful you truly are."
No amount of damage or scar could ever scare you
For you are an angel
Afraid of nothing*

*To be loved
So effortlessly*

*I want to be wrapped in the petals of your most beloved flowers
I want to drift through your waters on the darkest stormy night
I want to be taken up to heaven on the wings of you,
My angel*

To be loved

KL

Absolutely lovely, it is her.

Kathy Lindsey - February 03, 2022 at 04:54 PM

JM

“ *I had no idea Lorraine was ill, and was so saddened and shocked to just now read an email announcing her death. I loved my cousin Lorraine, and my heart is filled with so many many childhood memories. We had so much fun. She always had a smile on her face, and a heart filled with love and joy. We biked and walked and climbed over the fence when Alexander park was closed, played the piano and so much much more. Since we lived a few miles apart, we did not attend school together, and most of our times together, sleepovers, etc., were in the summer, so the sun was always shining. But Lorraine had such a radiance, it would seem to be sunny no matter what. My heart goes out to her family at this very sad time.*

Joyce McKim - February 03, 2022 at 01:16 PM

KR

“ *I met Lorraine through the Evening Garden Club where she was President from 2008-9 just after I'd moved to Corvallis. I had the privilege of serving on one of the club committees under Lorraine and she was always gracious, encouraging and VERY organized! We were lucky to have had her leadership. Both Bob and Lorraine very generously opened their garden to the community on many occasions and donated lots of plant divisions to the garden club fundraisers. I hope that every time Bob sees a lovely rose he'll think of Lorraine and take joy and comfort from his memories of her in the garden.*

Kathleen Rochester - February 03, 2022 at 12:38 PM

FG

“ My memories are to many to count. Many times over the years Lorraine and I have laughed together cried together and prayed together. We knew each others strengths and each others weaknesses. I have never visited with her but what I have been in some way encouraged. Tonight I feel a real void in my life but as she knew I know the sepatation felt now is only a little while if we trust Jesus as savior. My thoughts and love is sent to Lorraines sweet family and friends.

Florence Gestrin - February 02, 2022 at 08:30 PM

KS

“ Lorraine will be greatly missed! I still have several miniature rose bushes that were gifted to me by your parents many years ago. They make me smile when I think of their kindness--not only digging up the rose bushes but driving them all the way to Portland to bring them to me. Your mother's gentle spirit and firm belief in the goodness of people will always be inspiring to me. Sending lots of love, Kathryn Stillings

Kathryn Stillings - February 02, 2022 at 01:51 PM