



Rita Gee

November 9, 1929 - November 2, 2007

Rita Gee passed away at her home on Friday. She was known and loved as Rita, Mom, Grandma and Great-Grandma.

Rita was born in Swanton, Vt., to Oliva Granger and Eva (Bilideau) Granger as the youngest of 12 children. She grew up and attended school in New Hampshire and worked in various factories before moving to Salem in 1951, and later to Eugene. She worked as a waitress in Eugene and met Ralph Gee at a dance at Cottonwoods. They were married on Nov. 3, 1956. Together, they raised their blended family of six children in Philomath.

Rita loved her family, friends, bowling, gambling, flowers and carrot cake. She loved having fun and especially enjoyed traveling to bowling tournaments, both state and national, and spending time with all of her bowling buddies. As her health failed during the last two years, and she was unable to continue bowling, she was delighted to have her bowling friends call and stop in to make sure that she knew what was going on with everyone and keep her informed of all the latest news. To those friends, the family extends its warmest thanks.

Rita was preceded in death by her husband Ralph, granddaughter Nichole, five brothers and five sisters. She is survived by sisters Hazel and Delores; children Cliff and Pegge Gee, Les and Debbie Gee, Diana Gee, Danny and Denise Gee, Valerie and Richard Cooley, and Karen Rod Lukens; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and her very spoiled cat, Smokey. She was also excited about becoming a great-great grandmother in 2008.

Rita's life will be celebrated and remembered in a service at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 7, at McHenry Funeral Home with a reception to follow. Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the American Diabetes Association, the American Lung Association, Linn-Benton Food Share, or other charities of choice in care of McHenry Funeral Home, 206 N.W. Fifth St., Corvallis, OR 97330.