



Verda Idona McFarlane

December 5, 1938 - January 1, 2023

Loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend passed away at the age of 84. Verda was born 5 Dec. 1938 in her grandmother's home in Ephraim UT to Verdus and Georgia Briggs Olsen, she passed away 1 Jan. 2023 in her home in Philomath OR. She is survived by her husband, Craig McFarlane, sister, Shirley Packham, six children, and 24 grandchildren.

As a child, she was raised in Ogden, UT, and Southern CA. This included battling a Polio infection at five years old in the Los Angeles County Hospital. She attended Ogden Junior and High Schools, but moved to Clearfield, UT during her Senior year to graduate from Davis High School. As a student at the University of Utah, she met and married Craig McFarlane, in the Salt Lake Temple, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. They remained in love and true to each other for over 62 years. Her children are Sean Snow - Salt Lake City UT, Daniel (married to Susan) McFarlane - Reading MA, Trudi (married to Gary) Brown - Carlisle PA, Angie (married to Owen) Brown - Stockton CA, John (married to Kirstin) McFarlane - Okinawa Japan, and Robert (married to Lindsay) McFarlane - Temecula CA. She is also a proxy mother to foreign exchange student Dennis (married to Ida) Hyrup - Hillerod Denmark.

As a devoted Christian, Verda served in many local church assignments as teacher and leader, especially for the youth, sharing her love of Christ and helping others learn how to do the same. This included writing a monthly letter with personal stories embedded with gospel topics. For many years Verda

suffered with chronic pain, resulting from Post-Polio Syndrome. Visitors often left unaware of her pain, as she strove to focus on the person instead of her own discomfort. Her disposition was a blessing to herself and all she interacted with. She was a published writer and poet, and lived in Utah, California, Nevada, Germany and Oregon. She enjoyed movies, comedy, genealogy, dancing, reading, singing, skiing, jogging, bowling, the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and was the 10 millionth entrant to Disneyland in 1970, where she received a life-time pass to all Disney parks for herself and three guests. She loved the adventure of travel which included over 20 countries across North America, Central America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Polynesia, China, Thailand, and Australia. Wherever she went, she easily made friends, including many of you reading this obituary.

Services will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (150 James St., Philomath, OR) on Saturday, January 7, 2023. Viewing at 10 am PT, Funeral at 11 am PT, followed by burial at the Pleasant Valley Cemetery (near 23623 Alsea Hwy, Philomath OR).

The funeral will be broadcast on Zoom: Jan 7, 2023, 11 am PT,
<https://zoom.us/j/94902255982?pwd=ZTkycUdTbnVDmklPOW00WDNvcXIyZz09>

Meeting ID: 949 0225 5982, Passcode: 669052, +1-346-248-7799,
94902255982#, *669052# US

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Valley Cemetery

23624 ALSEA HWY
Philomath, OR 97370

Previous Events

Graveside Committal

JAN 7. 1:00 PM - 1:15 PM (PT)

Pleasant Valley Cemetery
23624 ALSEA HWY
Philomath, OR 97370

Tribute Wall

JM

“ 1 file added to the album Service



JAMES CRAIG McFarlane - January 26, 2023 at 12:59 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Service



McHenry Funeral Home - January 10, 2023 at 04:32 PM

KH

“ *Such a wonderful Lady, I will truly miss her. I always look forward to her Christmas letters every year, with all the news of her family. Such a positive and fun loving person, brings smiles to everyone she meets. Truly a dear Friend. Kathryn Hunter*

Kathryn Hunter - January 09, 2023 at 11:02 AM

DR

“ I've known Verda and Craig since I was a young married living with my parents temporarily in Philomath. We were so delighted when they moved to Munich, Germany and we became neighbors and helped them get settled. They have become part of our family through the years as our paths have intertwined. I have appreciated the love and friendship they gave to my mother before she passed away. Verda's Christmas letters each year were always something to cherish. She is a wonderful example and will be missed but I know she is busy helping others where she is now.

Diane Roberts - January 08, 2023 at 10:14 PM

RC

“ Rose Chapman lit a candle in memory of Verda McFarlane



Rose Chapman - January 07, 2023 at 01:33 PM

CH

“ In December of 2021 Craig asked me if I could take a picture of he and Verda for their 2021 Christmas newsletter. They called it their Covid smiles. I love how Verda's smile showed through her eyes.



Charlene Hendricks - January 05, 2023 at 10:27 PM

JF

“ Verda was a compassionate, creative, sweet person who was always kind to everyone and supported our young people. My sincere condolences to Craig and her wonderful children.

Joe Fulton - January 05, 2023 at 09:31 PM

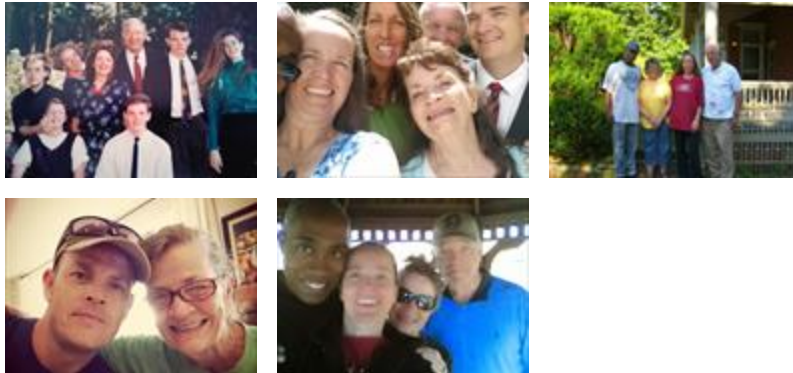
JF

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of sweet Verda. She was so friendly, generous, creative, compassionate, and supportive of young people. My sincere condolences to Craig and her wonderful children, some of whom I had the honor of coaching at Philomath High.

Joe Fulton - January 05, 2023 at 07:17 PM

TB

“ 8 files added to the album Verda McFarlane



Trudi Brown - January 05, 2023 at 05:51 PM



“ Aunt Verda is the kindest person I've ever met and a real lifesaver for me. I vividly remember how she rescued me once in the '60s. On the particular occasion I was staying at their home (in Las Vegas I believe) . She left me in the house with one of Uncle Craig's nephews, who was much older than me, to go on an errand. Shortly after she left the nephew caught me and pinned me to the floor. Sitting on my chest, he started tormenting me with slaps to the face and head. I wasn't sure if I would survive. After what felt like hours, in reality only about 10 minutes, I heard the door open and she came in. She walked over to us, lifted him off of me, and booted him out of the room. She took me over to the sofa, put arm around my shoulders, and asked me what we could do together. For the next 30 minutes we listened to "Sunshine Superman" on the phonograph over and over until I started smiling again. I thought that was cool. I have tons of fond memories of her just like that. Aunt Verda has a warm place in my heart forever.

David Packham - January 05, 2023 at 05:17 PM

AB

Thanks for sharing this! I love you David

Angela McFarlane Brown - January 06, 2023 at 11:25 AM

MH

“ 1 file added to the album Verda McFarlane



McHenry Funeral Home - January 05, 2023 at 11:51 AM

MM

Dear Verda was one of the sweetest and cheerful individuals we have ever met. We were aware of her physical discomfort and yet any conversation with her left us feeling positive and uplifted. We love her and she will forever have a special place in our hearts and minds. Rest in peace, dear Verda, you have left A legacy of love and kind thoughts behind for all who knew you.

Our profound condolences to Craig, their six children and all family members. We are certain that wonderful memories with this most special daughter of our Father In Heaven abound throughout your family as well as with all others who knew and love her. The fulfillment of Father's Eternal Promises awaits and provides wonderful assurance.

*With our sincere love,
// Michael & Katherine Morris*

Michael Morris - January 06, 2023 at 12:09 PM

SP

Where to begin--Verda was of a tender heart. When we lived in California as young children, we lived on a farm and had a cow in the back pasture. We would always run to see her when we got home from school. She had twin calves, my father told us that was very unusual. Way back in the olden days, we would double date. Later on I remember her knitting a pair of white string gloves for Gma Briggs. As we visited gma to fit them, as Verda progressed with the project, I said, " Never in hundred years could I do that." Gma gave me that steely stare and said, "Not even for your grandma?" We four-wheeled a few times in the Owyhee Mountains with Verda and Craig. When we went to their home she would always insist we visit the aquarium at Newport. Our place in Boise was a half-way mark for Craig and Verda on their way to Utah. They would plan to stay for a couple days at our home. We would play games, eat at Marie Calenders, a favorite place of Verd's. When they closed we had Chinese take-out, easier for Verda. Then we would talk for hours. Joe and I miss those times with them. When Angie called to tell us she was gone, I told my husband. " The Olsens were having a reunion and I wasn't invited yet." We loved Verda and will miss her kind spirit. Joe and Shirley

Shirley and Joe Packham - January 07, 2023 at 12:00 PM