

DFH

1-15-04

In memory of LaVonne Waits Linnemeyer



Twila "LaVonne" Waits was born in Stockwell, Nebraska on October 24, 1918. When she was seven years old the family moved to Curtis, Nebraska into a sod house built by our grandfather on a homestead he was granted in 1891.

She attended elementary school in a one-room school house. She graduated from high school at the Nebraska School of Agriculture, and immediately began teaching school.

In 1938, she married Elmer Linnemeyer. She continued teaching while raising their five children. In 1948, the family moved to Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

LaVonne began teaching in the Copeland School until the new Mount Hall School was built. She gave piano lessons at home, and her family grew to include 11 children.

When the Department of Education passed a law requiring that all teachers in Idaho hold an Idaho Teaching Certificate, LaVonne was allowed to continue teaching while she obtained her certification. For eight years she took home correspondence courses

and attended summer school at NIC in Coeur d'Alene. After Elmer's death in 1974, LaVonne and her youngest daughter, Lisa, moved to Moscow, Idaho where she attended the University of Idaho. LaVonne earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in 1976. She continued teaching at Mount Hall School until retiring in 1981.

In 1987, LaVonne moved to Post Falls, Idaho where she was able to continue with her love for music. she traveled with the "Hilliard Belles", putting on shows for Senior Centers and Nursing homes throughout the area. She also joined with friends Delores and Ralph Allert of Ritzville, Washington and Bill Austin of Post Falls to form the "Golden Oldies" that entertained at Senior Centers around the area. Both groups were welcomed where ever they went.

LaVonne passed away unexpectedly on November 14, 2003. Besides her children and their families, she leaves her five sisters to mourn her passing: LaVeeda Linnemeyer, Bonners Ferry; LaVay Phillips, Lincoln, California; Patsy Clark, Redmond Oregon; Freda Rae Wiseman, Missoula, Montana; and Marilyn House, Salem, Oregon.

She was preceded in death by an only brother, Ted Waits of Kingman, Arizona. She will also be missed-and always remembered-by her special friend, Bill Austin, her many nieces and nephews and the many students she taught over the years. LaVonne truly was a special person who loved life and lived every day to the fullest!

Twila Linnemeyer, 85

Twila "LaVonne" Linnemeyer, 85, of Post Falls, Idaho, passed away Nov. 14, 2003 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2003 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bonners Ferry, Idaho with a graveside service following at Copeland Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 24, 1918 in Curtis, Neb. to Fred and Calista (Wood) Waits and married Elmer Linnemeyer in 1937 in McCook, Neb.

LaVonne was a teacher and taught school at Mount Hall Elementary in Bonners Ferry, Idaho. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, attended the Calvary Lutheran Church in Post Falls and was a piano teacher. She also belonged to the Hillyard Bells and the Golden Oldies.

She moved to the Post Falls area 16 years ago from Bonners Ferry.

She is survived by three sons: Terry & Janice Linnemeyer of Roy, Wash., Mervin & Raquel Linnemeyer of San Diego, Calif. and Jack Linnemeyer of Carson City, Nev.; five daughters: Carole & Olaf Lethurd of Bonners Ferry, Id., Beverly & Bart Smith of Post Falls, Id., Toni & Jeff Williams of Ione, Wash., Roxanna & Elden MacPherson of Port Orchard, Wash. and Lisa & Tim Shukin of Creston, B.C.; five sisters and 55 grand, great-grand and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer, in 1974; sons Eugene in 1975 and Neil in 1957; daughters Cheryl Holman in 1990 and Vickie Rotar in 1997; and one brother.

Contributions can be made to the North Idaho Cancer Center at 700 Ironwood Dr., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.