

Bonnors Ferry Herald
April 21, 2005

Dorthea (Dotti) Marie Hahn Mills, 85

Dorthea (Dotti) Marie Hahn Mills passed away at the Extended Care Facility at Boundary Community Hospital on April 12, 2005. A celebration of her life was held at the Bonners Ferry Funeral Home on Saturday, April 16 at 11 a.m.



Dotti was born April 20, 1919, in Portland, Ore., to William Edson Hahn and Grace Nora Gilkey Hahn. Grace died when Dotti was five years old. She and her brother Bill then lived with her grandmother Gilkey in Coquille, Ore. She also stayed with loving relatives in the towns of Bandon and Riverton, Oregon, off and on during that time. They attended schools in the surrounding area.

At the age of eighteen, Dotti lived with her father, Bill Hahn, in Portland, and worked for a physician, Dr. J O Beaty.

She met Ralph Mills in July 1937. It was love at first sight. They married on September

16, 1937 in Vancouver, Washington and made their home in Idaville, (near Tillamook) Ore. They had two daughters, Donna Marie and Decie Marlene while living in Oregon.

Dotti and Ralph, and the two girls moved to Copeland in June 1946. Jeannie (Velda Jean Robinson) was born in Creston, B.C. in November of that year.

She and Ralph worked for the Copeland School; she cooked and Ralph also drove bus.

Later Ralph worked on the KV Railroad, and in 1949 Dotti became the Copeland Postmaster. (Postmaster-not postmistress as she was quick to point out). It was a rural fourth class post office which was attached to one end of her home. She retired as "postmaster" in 1971. When she retired, the post office closed and mail was then delivered from the Bonners Ferry post office on a route.

Always being busy being artistic in some way, she painted with acrylics, pastels, did charcoal, needlework, crocheting and sewing. She wrote articles, mostly of Oregon history,

and was published in several regional publications; and for many years wrote a column "Copeland Party Line" for the Bonners Ferry Herald.

After Ralph retired as Judge Magistrate in 1979, they treasured spending time with their family, antique hunting, fishing and gardening.

As Ralph was still officiating weddings, they enjoyed many trips and adventures involving weddings as diverse as nuptials on horseback, reaching wedding sights by snowmobile, dogs as flower girls, Schweitzer Mountain Resort, Coeur d'Alene Lake cruises and many back yards in the five northern counties.

They had so many friends and treasured each and every one.

Dotti was loving, kind and generous and she will be great-

ly missed.

She is survived by her daughter, Donna Rosling, Warren, Ore., and children Dianna and Mike Niday, Jim Rosling, Vince Rosling, daughter Decie Hollingsworth, Portland, and children Annette and Tom Conant and Shelly and Lisa Hollingsworth, and daughter Jeannie and Rod Robinson, Bonners Ferry, and children Kristi and Vern Wilson, Travis and Kelly Hinthorn, and Amy and Robert Chaney. She had fifteen great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild, and extended family Jack Hinthorn, Dave Wilson and Ed Bohlman.

She was preceded in death by her husband and very best friend, Ralph, her parents, sister Velda Way, brother Bill Hahn and son-in-law Johnny Rosling.