



Beth Craner Athay

April 23, 1924 - March 14, 2017

BETH CRANER ATHAY April 23, 1924 ~ March 14, 2017 "Beth enjoyed life and had a wonderful sense of humor." Beth Craner Athay died of natural causes on March 14, 2017, in Vancouver, Washington. She was 92 years old. Beth was born in Monroe, Utah, on April 23, 1924, to Herbert Erastus Craner and Mettie Lucile Hanks Craner. She grew up in Portland, Oregon, graduating from Beaumont Elementary School, then Grant High School in 1942. While attending Oregon State University, she met Dean Jacques Athay, whom she married on March 11, 1944. Dean soon left to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II. The couple had four children, raising them in Portland, Oregon, and mostly Vancouver. While Beth and Dean were living in Anchorage, Alaska, during the 1980s, she completed her college degree, graduating from the University of Alaska at age 60. Beth was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and served in many callings in her ward. She especially enjoyed working with the youth, who were drawn to her. Beth was preceded in death by her husband, Dean Athay, who died in 1986; her parents; her brothers, Carlton Craner and Eugene Craner; and her sister, Nanette Carr. She is survived by her children, Ron (Sarah), Joyce (Joel Janetski), Steve (Vickie), and Karen (Kelly Packer). Beth was Grandma to 18 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Services for Beth Athay will be held at the LDS chapel at 2223 NW 99th St., Vancouver, WA, on Monday, March 20, 2017, at 11 a.m. Please sign her guest book at: www.columbian.com/obits.