



Doris Hill Coles

November 18, 1924 - November 21, 2010

Doris Hill Coles of Vancouver, WA, passed away on Nov. 21, 2010. She was born in a logging camp at Wilark, OR to Victor Mattias Hill and Ida Jahlstrom Hill. The family moved to Clark County in the 1930's, and Doris graduated from Battle Ground High School in 1942. She worked as a secretary in the Kaiser shipyards during World War II and became a master seamstress and sewing teacher after the war. She married John Henry Coles in 1948, and with him, literally built their Vancouver home. A liberated woman before the term was popular, Doris pounded nails, sawed boards, shingled, built rock walls, landscaped their property, and built furniture from scratch. "Doing what needed to be done" describes Doris' life. She, her husband and her father, built her parents Vancouver home in 1956 and their own home on the Washington coast in the mid-1980s. She was unendingly creative in crafts and home projects. She designed and printed small-scale publications for the Columbia View Garden Club, in which she was active for more than two decades. Doris volunteered as a Girl Scout leader in the 1950's and 1960's and was active in the PTA's at her children's schools. Doris enjoyed traveling with John and their daughter, Vicki, making several lengthy trips to Asia and Europe. Doris was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, John, who died in 1997; her parents; and her brother, Erland V. Hill. She is survived by her daughter, Vicki Coles and husband Paul Bellows; son, John and wife Mary Ann; grandchildren, Ian Coles and Abby Coles; numerous cousins, nephews, nieces and friends. Doris' family wishes to thank Belen Ortiz and Judy Case of

Evergreen Springs Adult Foster Home and caregivers Olivier, Mirella and Claudia.

Tribute Wall



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