



Helen M. Butler

February 18, 1928 - June 23, 2025

Helen Marie (Hawthorne) Butler, formerly of La Grande, Oregon passed away, Monday, June 23, 2025 at her home in Vancouver, Washington at the age of 97.

Helen was born on February 18, 1928 in St. Louis, Missouri, an only child of father Edward Manuel, and mother, Lola Stewart. She was raised and educated in St. Louis, Mo, where she graduated with the high school class of 1946. After high school she was married to Ilee Rhimes and had five children, three girls and two boys. Helen eventually went on to Marry JC Hawthorne in LaGrande, OR. While married to JC, she had six more children, all boys. The six boys were raised in La Grande, Oregon. They were married 18 years before they divorced in 1975. In 1991 she was married to Willie Butler in La Grande, Oregon. They had many happy years together before his death on Dec 1, 1998. Helen was a devoted member of the Church. She loved playing the piano, singing, tap-dancing, painting, doing word puzzles, and hanging with the kids. Mostly she loved life and people. People who knew her, describe her as hard working, kind, optimistic and very pleasant to be around. She was very loved by her family and friends. Her children loved taking care of her, especially in her later years. Helen was proceeded in death by her daughter Mary Minger. She is survived by her 10 children. (Josephine Thomas of Highland, Ca), (Ilee Rhimes the 3rd of St. Louis, Mo), (Elbert Rhimes of St. Louis, Mo), (Diane Gray of Houston, Tx), (Johnny Hawthorne of Denver Co), Lenroe Hawthorne of San Antonio, Tx), (Edward Hawthorne of Henderson,

Nv), (Clarence Hawthorne of Chattanooga, Tenn), (Rodney Hawthorne of Vancouver, Wa), and (James Hawthorne of Vancouver, Wa).Helen leaves 23 grandchildren and several great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held on Sunday, June 29, at 3:00pm atEvergreen Memorial Gardens1101 NE 112th,Vancouver, Wa. 98684

A graveside service and dedication of her grave will be held at1:00pm Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Island City Cemetery1090 McAlister RdIsland City, OR 97850

Tribute Wall

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“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Helen M. Butler - June 26, 2025 at 12:00 AM