



## Norma N. Brown

January 24, 1924 - March 23, 2025

In Loving Memory of Norma Nell Nielsen Brown

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Norma Nell Nielsen Brown, who departed from this world on March 23, 2025, at the age of 101. Norma was a beloved Daughter, Sister, Cousin, Niece, Mother, Wife, Aunt, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Great-Great Grandmother, cherished by many and respected by all who knew her.

Born on January 24, 1924, in Lakeview, Oregon to Bertha and Elmer Harris. She was one of seven children raised on the farm in Willow Ranch, California. Some of her favorite moments were curling up behind the wood stove waiting for mom to pull the warm bread from the oven and playing in the tire swings with her brothers and sisters. At age 12, she won a trip through the 4H club to ride the train to the California State Fair in Davis, opening her eyes to the world outside of Willow Ranch. She attended school in New Pine Creek, Ca. finishing high school in Alturas in 1941.

The following winter a handsome young Dane came to town, she met the love of her life, Clayton Nielsen, and they were married on July 5, 1942. Together they had five sons, Denny, Jerry, Rod, Doug and Mark. As a busy housewife, she spent time raising her boys, tending to family needs, cooking, sewing, and milking cows. In her spare time, she took up piano lessons and ran the Willow Creek library serving on the board.

The family moved to Central Point in 1962 where Clayton later suffered an accident and passed away. Norma had taken a job at J.C. Penny's and after a

couple years sold her organ and sewing machine and with some help from her mom put a down payment on a house in Medford, Oregon. It was there that she met Fred Brown, and they married on February 7, 1964. Fred and Norma built a house on a hill in Ashland, Oregon, working evenings and weekends until they had it finished. They spent the next forty plus years their raising the boys and welcoming their spouses, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. During this time, she took up a new hobby: painting. She excelled in her artistic skills perfecting everything from still life, landscapes, and portraits to pencil sketches. Her art filled her home and all her families. She was, indeed, a remarkable artist.

Eventually they settled in a cozy neighborhood in Talent, Oregon. After Fred passed away, she stayed there until spring of 2020 when she moved to a home to recover from a bout with pneumonia. It was then that the Alameda Fire took both her home in Talent and home in Phoenix with every possession she had to her name. She was taken in by her sons and eventually settled in Vancouver, Washington where she lived out her final years.

Norma lived a life full of love, kindness, and devotion. She is remembered as the matriarch of the family, known for always taking in and caring for those in need unconditionally.

Norma was preceded in death by her parents: Elmer and Bertha Henderson Harris, Husbands: Clayton Nielsen and Fred Brown, Brothers: Ted, Ross, Lee, Gordon, Sisters: Barbara and Elizabeth, Grandson: Josh Nielsen, Daughter-in-law: Gale Nielsen, Son: Mark Nielsen.

Norma is survived by her children who brought immense pride and joy: Sons: Leland D. Nielsen, Jerry Nielsen, (Kathy), Rod Nielsen, (Melinda), Doug Nielsen, (Cindy). Beloved Grandchildren who will always remember her gentle spirit: Randy, Kevin, Kristine, Melisa, Colby, Casidee, Amanda and Tiffany. She is fondly remembered by several cousins, nieces, nephews and multiple Great and Great-Great grandchildren.

Norma will be laid to rest on Monday, March 31, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Vancouver, WA. Family and friends are invited to gather

and celebrate the remarkable life of Norma.

Norma Nell will be deeply missed but will forever remain in our hearts as a beacon of love and kindness. Rest in peace Mom, grandma, great-grandma, and great-great grandma.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that you always keep Norma in your thoughts.

# Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 06:24 PM



“ Q: *What will you never forget about Norma?*

*A: How strong and healthy she was! When I visited her in 2019 she was still riding her pedal bike for exercise. She told me there was a couple fellas there in the neighborhood that were "sniffing around"and she didn't want anything to do with them. She said that one of them had asked "Can I ride my bike with you sometime?" She told me that she wouldn't mind the company but he was too old and couldn't keep up! Fast forward to a few days before she passed I asked her if she remembered that and she told me "I sure showed him!" So so must have proved to him that he couldn't keep up! I believe she was 94-95 at the time. I can only pray to be that healthy when I get older.*

*Another memory which has to do with the picture attached. I went on a Harley ride with some friends and we made her place in Talent a stop to visit and have dinner. While we were there she showed me this picture of us and said "I always knew you would grow up to ride a motorcycle. You would get back there and yell "faster nana faster!" No matter how fast I was going". She told me she would pedal as fast as she could and I would just be back there giggling my head off. She was that kind of grandma! She always made our time together so special and taught me so much.*

*She was the glue that held us all together and will be greatly missed.*

*I love you "Granny"*

Melisa Nielsen - March 27, 2025 at 12:00 AM

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

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**A Memorial Tree was planted for Norma N. Brown - March 26, 2025 at 12:00 AM**