



Virginia Louise Brooks

August 27, 1927 - September 11, 2015

Virginia "Ginny" Brooks Virginia Louise Brooks, beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother left us on Friday, September 11, 2015 following complications from a tragic car accident. She was 88 years old. She was born August 27, 1927 in Hazard, Kentucky to Joe & Della Francis. The family relocated to Denver, Colorado to find work. Mother attended South High School and, during those years, worked often as a model. She later attended the University of Denver, where she was a sorority sister in Phi Delta Kappa. She met her best friend and husband, James Lester Brooks in a university square dance club, and he soon proposed to her with a moonlight guitar and song serenade. They were married June 5, 1947 in Denver. Late the following year, they moved to Kirkland, Washington with their first child, where Dad attended the University of Washington and later, began his teaching career. Three more children would follow. In 1950, "Jim and Ginny" built "The Hayloft" in Alderwood Manor, Washington, near Lynnwood. They enjoyed a successful square dance teaching business from 1950 to 1967 and made many life-long friends. They are credited with the invention of the "round dance" and were invited to travel extensively in the U.S. and Canada as instructors at many square dance clubs, camps, fairs and festivals. In 1967, the family moved to Vancouver, Washington, where Dad worked as a school district administrator and Mother (with their eldest daughter, Kim) operated a pre-school known as Pixie Cottage in Hazel Dell. Upon Dad's retirement, they joined their many "snow bird" friends in sunny Mesa, Arizona, where they lived a happy, active

lifestyle. Mother loved her family and, as a wonderful example and constant teacher, instilled in them all the important attributes needed to also become good and loving spouses, parents, grandparents and citizens. She enjoyed dancing, bowling, traveling and camping (including a nation-wide trip in a station wagon and pop-up camper with four kids in the summer of 1962). She is survived by her devoted husband of 68 years, James; daughters Kimberlee Burnett (spouse, Ken Burnett) of Vancouver, Washington, Kathryn Brooks of Shelton, Washington, and sons James (spouse, Su Brooks) and Jack (spouse, Melissa Brooks), both of Vancouver, Washington. She also leaves her 9 precious grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. A celebration of life will be held in her honor this Thursday at Evergreen Memorial Gardens (1101 NE 112th Ave., Vancouver) at 3:00 p.m., followed by a reception at the same venue. In lieu of flowers, we invite you to make donations in our Mother's name to either The American Cancer Society or the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 03:43 PM

SB

“ We shared a love for violets. When she and Jim started flying to Arizona I started keeping her flower babies. This last year when she came home one was blooming and I was so happy to give to her with flowers. We didn't have a lot of contact but what we did have was quality and fun. She raised an amazing family.

Sandy Bierman - February 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ I am very sorry to hear of the loss of, Mrs. Brooks. With her accomplishments, her love and joys, she was an amazing woman! I won't pretend to know what you're going through, but what has helped me deal with the loss of those I love, is turning to the Scriptures, something that has been a real source of comfort. One Scripture that gives me hope is, John 11:25, which says, " Jesus said to her: I am the resurrection and the life. The one who exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life." I hope that this verse will also comfort you and, I hope you and your family can get through this difficult time. Please accept my condolences for the loss of your beloved wife, mother, grandma and friend.
Sincerely, Meryl

Meryl - September 16, 2015 at 12:00 AM

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