

# Lois Baehmann

Pendleton

April 1928-November 27, 2013

Longtime Pendleton resident Lois Baehmann passed away on November 27, 2013. A memorial service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 7 at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel.

In April of 1928, Lois Delia Mullins was born to Martin James Mullins and Ruth Montana Mullins in St. Ignatius, Montana. The family moved over forty times chasing construction jobs. Lois developed a resiliency and tenacity that she would rely on the rest of her life. Attending church provided acceptance and comfort. While in Spokane, Wash., she graduated high school. Lois was called home one semester into college to become the primary caretaker for the family when her mother suffered a stroke. Martin moved the family to Moses Lake, Wash. The family again found a church. It was a mission church being established by young Lutheran minister Arthur Baehmann. Lois and Arthur were married in August 1952.

Lois embraced the active role she played as the two worked to build a church, a congregation, and a family. Heartbreak came early as their infant daughter Jan died. They turned to their faith and each other and focused on the work at hand. The church began to grow as did the family, which now included sons Philip and

James as well as daughter Colleen.

In 1960, the family moved to Peace Lutheran Church in Pendleton. They worked hard to get established with the new congregation as they lived in the parsonage mere yards from the church. The family grew to include Richard, the youngest. Lois worked at various retail stores in town. In 1985, after 25 years at Peace Lutheran, Arthur Baehmann died unexpectedly. Since 2001, she has lived with her



Baehmann

widowed daughter Colleen.

Lois is known for her outreach to others. She has nurtured countless others during their times of need, illness, or want. She was generous with whatever she had — her time, a meal, or the last dollar in her purse. She was a tremendous person that will be missed by all who actually knew her.

She is survived by her children Philip and wife Pamela Baehmann (Medford), James and wife Kimberly Baehmann (Salem), and Colleen Holmstrom and Richard Baehmann (Pendleton); her grandchildren Shawn and Justin Baehmann, Jennifer and Nicholas Baehmann and Amanda Barrett; and her younger sister Donna Law. In addition to her parents, her husband and first child, she was predeceased by her two brothers, Joseph and Thomas Mullins.

# baby who weighed one pound at birth



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

## Organizing the Light Up a Light Community Memory Tree

around the tree. The angelic quartet was evicted, though the angels could still attend the after-hours candlelight ceremony.

In 2008, Kligel's display moved from the library to a small alcove on the second floor by the mayor's office. In 2009, the angels were banned from even a cameo appearance when then-City Manager Larry Lehman said the city had to be cautious about mixing religion and government. "We're trying to walk a fine line," he said at the time.

Participants are finding it hard to watch the tree's lights fade away. People have contacted Kligel to beg her to continue. Kligel, though

would like to thank everyone for their support and help for these 20 years," she said.

Todd Kligel was 10 when he lost Rodney, the "older brother who watched over me." The Memory Tree became a family tradition after his mother came up with the idea and nurtured it for 20 years.

He dares to hope that an individual or group will adopt the project. "The community support has been awesome," he said.

Volunteer and friend Becky Robinson praised Kligel's successful two-decade run. "She was very dedicated to the program all these years," Robinson said. "She saw a need."