## Virginia Lee Garton

## EAST OREGONIAN

Published on June 6, 2016 5:01PM

Last changed on June 7, 2016 1:09PM



Garton

Virginia Lee Garton, 91, of Pendleton, Ore., passed away May 31, 2016, at a local care facility. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2016, at Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom-Bishop with interment to follow at Olney Cemetery. A Celebration of Life reception will be held immediately following the service at the Free Methodist Church, 1711 S.W. 44th, Pendleton.

On June 20, 1924, Virginia was the fifth child born to Arch and Mary (Bunch) Whiteley of Kingston, Ark. She attended school in Kingston. On April 19, 1941, she married Wayne H. Garton. Her husband was drafted in 1944. After the war, they lived in Twin Falls, Idaho. They subsequently lived in Milton-Freewater, Oregon, and then moved to Pendleton in 1955.

For 35 years, she worked at many different jobs in order to help provide for her family of four sons. She continued her education and attended Blue Mountain Community College to earn her GED. She went on to obtain her certification as a histology technician. She had a long career at Interpath Laboratory. After retirement, she cooked for Camlu Retirement Home. Virginia was an excellent cook and was also very creative and talented with her sewing and crafts. It gave her great joy to make quilts, clothes and baby blankets for her friends and family.

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She could always provide good meals and sleeping accommodations for unexpected guests, even when there were seemingly none available. She loved to host family gatherings. Visits by friends and family were special times for her. Above all else, she loved her family, both immediate and extended.

Survivors include her four sons and their wives: Larry and Joan, Phil and Mo, and Rick and Diane, all of Pendleton, and Doug and Teri of La Grande; and sisters Blanche Pratt of Santa Quin, Utah, and Marietta James of Twin Falls, Idaho. She is also survived by seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Wayne; her parents; brother Noble Whiteley; sisters Ruby Head, Midge Moore and Berniece Bolinger; and grandson Christian Garton.

Virginia was a member of the Free Methodist Church. She was loved by all who came in contact with her. Her selfless devotion to her family was awe-inspiring. She was a very strong person who suffered through many trials and tribulations with her faith and dignity intact.

Her family wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to the management and staff at Suttle Care and Retirement and also to the St. Anthony Hospice staff.

Memorial contributions in her memory can be made to St. Anthony Hospice in care of Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, 131 SE Byers Ave., Pendleton, OR 97801.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.pioneerchapel.com

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