

# Mary Ellen (Simmons) Helfrecht

Pendleton

December 25, 1917-March 8, 2014

Mary Ellen (Simmons) Helfrecht of Pendleton, Oregon, passed away on March 8, 2014, at the age of 96. She was residing in Redmond, Oregon, at the time of her death.

Mary was born in Hartville, Missouri, on December 25, 1917, to Blanche and Ralph Simmons. She grew up in the Hartville area, where she met and later married Robert Andrew Helfrecht on February 22, 1933. She attended beauty school and became a licensed beautician in 1937. In 1939 Mary, Robert and daughter Suzanne moved to Council, Idaho, then on to Pendleton in 1942. After working for several years as a beautician in the Pendleton area, she opened Mary's Beauty Shop in 1948. She officially retired in 1990, but continued to "beautify" many friends and relatives.

Mary was a kind, helpful and generous person who enjoyed doing nice things for everyone. There is likely not a person she ever knew that she didn't lend a helping hand. She was a very skilled seamstress and created many beautiful things for her daughters, herself, grandchildren

and others. Her memory was incredible. Her stories of family, friends and events were always informative, entertaining and simply amazing ... an irreplaceable source of information. Mary was loved and admired by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. She will be truly missed.



**Helfrecht**

Mary was predeceased by her parents; husband Robert; infant daughter Bobby; brother Dan Simmons; and son-in-law Daniel Schrader. She is survived by daughters Suzanne Schrader and Mary Kathleen Robinson (husband Gary); grandchildren Steve Schrader (wife Annalee), Sean Schrader (wife Deborah), Kate Schrader (husband James Simmons), Megan Wegscheider (husband Erik), and Amanda Doty (husband Scott); 13 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

At Mary's request, no funeral will be held. A Celebration of Life will be at 2:00 p.m. on May 3, 2014, at the Sundown Grill in Pendleton.

Contributions in her name may be made to the American Cancer Society.

**ARC OF UMATILLA COUNTY BINGO**, 6 p.m. doors open, bingo starts at 7 p.m. 215 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. (541-567-7615).

**FIDDLER'S NIGHT**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Hermiston Terrace Assisted Living, 980 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston. Join the jam session or just listen. Refreshments served. (541-567-3141).

**MEET THE AUTHOR: PEG WIL-LIS**, 7 p.m., Vert Club Room, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton. Author of "Building the Columbia River Highway: They Said It Couldn't Be Done" gives presentation on her book. (541-966-0201).

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**

**MOEBIUS POETRY WORK-SHOP**, 10 a.m. to noon, lone Public Library, 385 W. Second St., lone. Moebius poetry can be read continually in circular fashion, returning to the beginning of the poem. (541-561-9828).

Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate, Pendleton. Vendors with products for home, outdoors and lifestyle, free trees from the USFS, Kid Zone planting project with Master Gardeners and Dirt Dabblers, food concessions.

**STORY & CRAFT TIME**, 2 p.m., Echo Public Library, 20 Bonanza St.

**PINTEREST PARTY**, 3:30-5 p.m., Children's Museum of Eastern Oregon, 400 S. Main St., Pendleton. Hop in and make bunny ears. (541-276-1066).

**AFTER SCHOOL STORY TIME**, 4 p.m., Pendleton Public Library, 502 S.W. Dorion Ave. Books, music and a craft. Older siblings welcome. (541-966-0380).

**TEEN OPEN GYM**, 4-6 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free access for teens only. (541-276-8100).

**ADULT OPEN GYM**, 6-8 p.m., Pendleton Recreation Center, 510 S.W. Dorion Ave. Free access for

**April 11th - 13th**

**2 - 6 Sat 9 - 5 Sun 10 - 4**

**FREE Admission!**

**Center**

