

## Jessie Ruth Humphrey

**Posted: Friday, May 24, 2013 9:44 am**

Come join us in the celebration of Ruth's life on May 26, 2013, from 1:00 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 1250 Tutuilla Road, Pendleton, Ore.

Ruth passed away at her home on May 19, 2013. Ruth was born in San Mateo, Calif., on March 10, 1930. She grew up in California and Portland, Ore., where she met and married the love of her life, Alan G. Humphrey Sr., on February 10, 1950. She is survived by her children: Alan G. Humphrey Jr., James L. Humphrey, Thomas Humphrey, Trudy Garren and Darrell Humphrey. Her face would light up and she would smile from ear to ear when she would hear the sound of her 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She was known as G-G Ma to them.

She had lived in Port Orford in her early married life and then in Portland where her children grew up. As the children married and moved away, Ruth and Alan Sr. moved to Florence, Ore., where Ruth ran the DMV office and drove and worked the Mobile DMV office up and down the coast. She retired in 1981 and she and Alan went to Alaska to visit two of her children in 1984; they loved it and stayed. They lived in Alaska for seven years where Ruth worked for the municipality of Anchorage. She loved living there and enjoyed all the wonders of the last frontier. They traveled all over the state enjoying the fishing, camping, wildlife and panning for gold. She was always amazed at the Northern Lights dancing in the skies and gazing at the millions of stars that illuminated the night skies. She always talked fondly of her days and adventures she had experienced while living there and always yearned to someday go back and visit.

Ruth retired from Anchorage Municipality in 1991 and they moved to Milton-Freewater, Ore., for a while and settled in Pendleton, Ore., in 1992. She lived a life full of love and warmth, caring about others with a generous heart. Her love of music filled the air of her home always and anywhere she had a chance to express it. She played the piano and organ for the church she attended in Portland, Ore., and could always be found singing. She would sing with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren song of long ago. She loved Big Band music and could be found singing with a grin to make anyone want to join in. She loved doing all kinds of crafts: ceramics, knitting, crochet and painting. Her other favorite pastimes included playing cards and going to the local coffee houses for her morning coffee and visiting with everyone.

Ruth will be so tenderly missed but never forgotten. Her memory will always sing in our hearts and bring that smirky grin to mind.

