



Darrelyn McDermott

May 17, 1938 - November 24, 2018

Surrounded by her children and husband, Darrelyn McDermott passed peacefully away on November 24, 2018. She is survived by her devoted husband Elroy; her daughters Christie L. McDermott, Shelly Tracy (Von Tracy), Elizabeth Jones (Craig Johnson), Lorraine Jones (Loyal Allen) her son, Patrick E McDermott (Angie McDermott), and her 19 grandchildren and 47 great-grandchildren. Darrelyn was born to Ruth and Richard Owens on May 17, 1938. She is survived by her six sisters and four brothers. Her early years were spent working hard on the family farm, riding horses, and enjoying every morsel of the delicious food her mother prepared. She appeared in theatrical productions at Preston High School and later at EWU. She graduated from high school in June of 1956. Darrelyn met the love of her life, Elroy McDermott, in December of 1956 after he had returned from a two-year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She was so impressed with his integrity, loving nature, and testimony of Jesus Christ that she said "Yes!" They were married and sealed for time and eternity on June 14, 1957 in Logan, Utah. Darrelyn's educational dreams were slowed while she cared for their children and helped to support the family, while Elroy obtained his bachelor's, master's, and PhD degrees. Education has always been a priority for her, and even though her schedule was busy, she managed to take a number of courses towards her general education requirements. In 1965 the McDermott family moved to Cheney, Washington where Elroy accepted a teaching position at EWU. She continued her education at EWU and graduated with her bachelor's degree in Education (1978), then, a master's degree in English literature (1992). While at Eastern she sang with the concert choir, had a leading role in a theatrical performance, and graduated with highest honors. Upon graduating, she signed her teaching contract with Cheney High School. Darrelyn loved her students and colleagues, and was recognized for the warmth and encouragement which existed in her classroom. Her love of learning was contagious for her students and her love of them was felt and returned. After 34 years at CHS, Darrelyn retired from the classroom and began writing a book. Her literary novel was completed in 2018, and has received a positive response from a publisher.

What set Darrelyn apart was her love for others, her love for her husband, and her love for her Savior. Her life emulated her testimony of the gospel of Jesus Christ, always striving to

serve and to love as He has. At the end of her life Darrelyn had faith she would return to her heavenly home, with loved ones who have gone on before, and waiting to be reunited with her loving husband and family. Funeral services will be held on December 1, 2018 at 12:00 p.m., at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 10405 W. Melville Road, Cheney, WA 99004, located across from the Fairways Golf Course. If you would like to make a donation in Darrelyn's name, please do so to Cheney High School's library fund.

Comments



“ In 1986 I came as a German exchange student to Cheney. Mrs. McDermott became one of my favorite teachers. She was so kind, so friendly and so calm, always helpful and supporting me in my various problems with the foreign language.

Rest in peace, Mrs. McDermott, your teaching left an indelible impression!



Jörg Fischer - Yesterday at 03:18 AM



“ Amy Lee Goude lit a candle in memory of Darrelyn McDermott



Amy Lee Goude - December 03, 2018 at 01:36 AM



“ Mrs. McDermott was one of the few teachers that showed an interest in me. She knew I wanted to be a writer, and she would give me books to read. She even took the time to read a book I recommended to her. I wonder if she knew how much her students truly loved her. I hope so.

Amy Lee Goude - December 03, 2018 at 02:39 AM



“ Michelle Barrier lit a candle in memory of Darrelyn McDermott



Michelle Barrier - December 02, 2018 at 11:52 PM



“ She was one of those teachers I will always remember and she really cared about her students. I had her in drama back in 1980. It was really neat to see her at Parent Teacher's conference when my kids had her for a teacher. She will be missed.



Allan Gainer - December 02, 2018 at 08:46 AM



“ Much love and sympathy to Shelly and the rest of the family. Your mom was such an important part of my childhood and I feel blessed to have been part of your family. Mrs. McDermott was such a loving and happy person- never will forget her singing! Much love & may her memory be a blessing .

Darcie Donegan - December 01, 2018 at 11:32 AM



“ I knew Mrs McDermott from church and from school she was a very big part of my life. I am thankful she was there for me during my teenage years..what a great and special woman.. My thoughts and prayers are with her family..She will be missed!!

Judi Elder - November 30, 2018 at 03:32 PM



“ I had Mrs. McDermott For My Senior year Language Arts teacher. I had always struggled with this class. She made it so very enjoyable and everyday was joy to be around her. I had know her as a teacher in previous years but never had a class with her. I remember when she told me that she was going back to get her Masters Degree. It amazed me that her age she would ever consider this but she acted like it was just another day. She made learning fun. I would often think about her when ever i was in the Geiger Heights area where i know she had at least lived in the 90's. She will forever be missed. With Love and Prayers Larry Campbell Cheney Class of 91.

Larry Campbell - November 30, 2018 at 12:44 PM



“ I have such fond memories of Mrs. McDermott. She was an exceptional teacher who genuinely cared about her students; and her love and support of theater was truly valued. She made a tremendous difference in many young people's lives.

Anne Rice-Hanenburg - November 30, 2018 at 02:45 AM



“ Mrs. McDermott gave me a D on a paper when I needed it most. She saw a writer with potential who wasn't pushing herself—and she believed in what I could become. 25 years and several publications later I teach college English, creative writing, and literature. There isn't a day where I don't think about the difference Mrs. McDermott made in my life, and the lives of so many of us in the class of 1994.

Elyse (Fields) Marsh - November 30, 2018 at 12:44 AM



“ She was one of several favorite teachers at Cheney High School. She always pushed her students to strive for the best. Thank you Mrs. McDermott, you will be missed.



Jole Birdsell-Chick - November 29, 2018 at 10:46 PM



“ She inspired me to be as creative in my stories as possible and to love English. She was a wonderful person and will be missed!

Karesa Phillips - November 29, 2018 at 04:36 PM



“ Rebecca Bateman lit a candle in memory of Darrelyn McDermott



Rebecca Bateman - November 29, 2018 at 04:28 PM



“ Oh, I am so sorry to hear this. She was always so nice to me. We lived across the street for many many years. One day I got stung by a bee and my parents weren't home. She took care of me.

Rachel B - November 29, 2018 at 03:37 PM



“ What a loss for this life, but an angel in the next. Darrelyn was such a sweet lady. Always had a smile for everyone, and was kind and gentle. No doubt she will be missed by many.

Rebecca Bateman - November 29, 2018 at 04:30 PM



“ She and I worked part time for the registrar's office at Eastern in the 70's. She was such a neat lady...with a great sense of humor. I'm so sorry to hear of her passing. My heart goes out to her family.

Sue Holter (Moynahan) - November 29, 2018 at 11:14 PM



“ Mrs. McDermott was my favorite teacher, I loved AP English with her at Cheney High School. I remember her fondly and hope the family can find some peace in this time of sadness.

Cassandra Cat - November 29, 2018 at 04:00 PM