



## Mildred Annie Staley

August 19, 1931 - September 15, 2018

No obituary found for this tribute.

# Tribute Wall

GK

“ Notice in today’s Spokesman of Mildred’s passing came as sad news for children in Spokane whose families struggle to give their children the safety, security and support they need and deserve. I knew Mildred through over 20 years of our volunteer service together in the Guardian ad Litem program which trained volunteers to serve as advocates for these children in Juvenile Court Dependency proceedings. Mildred’s quiet, confident, completely committed dedication to these tasks and children was so exceptional. In fact, if I am correct, it was one of Mildred’s cases that took on a statewide legal importance when her advocacy revealed that her assigned children and hundreds more in the state of Washington were moved repeatedly while in the care of the State, awaiting their final disposition to either be returned home, remain in foster care, or be released for adoption. The State Court ruled that children deprived of hope and stability because of repeated moves in foster care are further and unreasonably/unacceptably harmed, and the Department of Child and Family Services was charged with making changes to ensure the fewest moves and faster transitions to permanent placement were employed. While some of the imposed guidelines improved DCFS placement protocols, many other guidelines remain unmet to this day. We’re it not for Mildred Staley’s persistence that led to the Braam case ruling and resulting administrative guidelines that recognized the needs of children whose families may have failed them, many more children would have suffered great harm. Thank you, Mildred, for your dedicated service, your personal sacrifice of time, love, attention and care for children at risk of abuse and neglect, and for the collegiality and friendship and knowlege/experience you shared with all of us GALs and the children of this community and Washington State. You will be missed but not forgotten. With respect and in remembrance, Gayle Kiser

---

Gayle Kiser - October 10, 2018 at 04:22 PM

MS

*Gayle. THANK YOU for these beautiful comments! She was an Angel for me and my wife. With tears in my eyes, I pass along to all that with out her, I would not have 4 of my 5 beautiful daughters! THANKS AGAIN. Mitch Swenson.*

---

**MITCH SWENSON** - October 18, 2018 at 01:50 PM