



## Ruth Mary Preston

November 22, 1938 - November 10, 2021

As the sun set across the Whitman County wheat fields on November 10, 2021, Ruth Mary Preston went peacefully to heaven while surrounded by her family. Ruth Mary was born on November 22, 1938, to Cornelia and Fred Buob in Spokane, WA. A granddaughter of Washington state pioneers, she was raised on her grandparent's farm where she later raised her own family. She graduated from Rosalia High School in 1956 and married her high school sweetheart, David Preston on October 6, 1957. This past October they celebrated 64 blessed years of marriage.

Ruth Mary was an integral part of the Rosalia Community. Her faith in Jesus Christ meant everything to her and she shared it with others. Over the years she was an active member of the Rosalia United Methodist Church, Community Church of the Bible in Spokane Valley, and Rosalia Assembly of God. She served as a Sunday School teacher and church pianist.

Community involvement included being a Camp Fire Girls leader, Rainbow Girls Mother Advisor, and Community Float ambassador. She worked at the Rosalia schools as a cook, where she always greeted all the children with a smile and friendly greeting. Every year she baked cookies for the annual Garden Club cookie exchange.

Traveling to see America was a true joy for her. Her goal was to visit every

state in the union and she came very close to achieving it. A camper bus in the '70s was a way to take the five children on adventures to National Parks throughout the West. Yellowstone was her favorite park. Touring with the Rosalia Community Float over several decades included trips throughout Washington, the Okanogan Valley in British Columbia, and as far east as Butte, MT.

Ruth Mary loved a good celebration, whether birthdays, weddings, or the birth of a child. She had a gift for creating beautiful cakes and volunteered her time and talent to the community, making many memorable cakes over the years. Timely sending cards for birthdays or other milestones was part of her ministry of loving others. Tea Parties were one of her favorite things to host or attend.

Family was the most important part of her life. She rarely missed an event for her children or grandchildren, traveling around the county or country to attend sporting events, dance or music recitals, rodeos, school plays, and the Whitman County fair. Her traditional annual Christmas letter shared news of the latest trip or updates on her children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren.

Ruth Mary is survived by her husband David, children Connie (Gene) Conradi, Nancy Preston, Vernon (Sarah) Preston, Mary Castanon, and Melanie (Anton) Faulk, sister Judy Littleton and sisters-in-law Kay Boyles and Kathie Lindquist, 16 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Fred and Cornelia Buob, moms Annette Buob Quantz and Pearl Rochet, brother Leland Lindquist, and grandson Tanner Conradi.

We are grateful to the many caring friends who walked her life's journey and would like to thank the caring staff of the Rosalia and Colfax Volunteer Ambulance Crews, the Whitman Health and Rehab Center, and Whitman

Hospital for assisting in her end of life care.

A Visitation will be held Saturday, November 20th from 1-5 pm at Cheney Funeral Chapel. A Celebration of the Life of Ruth Mary Preston will be held on Monday, November 22, 2021, which would have been her 83rd birthday, at the Rosalia United Methodist Church at 1:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Rosalia Ambulance Fund PO Box 291 Rosalia, WA 99170 or The Gideons International [www.gideons.org/donate](http://www.gideons.org/donate).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **20**. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Cheney Funeral Chapel  
1632 W 1st St.  
Cheney, WA 99004  
(509) 235-2992  
<https://www.cheneyfuneral.com/>

## Celebration of Life

NOV **22**. 1:00 PM (PT)

Rosalia United Methodist Church  
214 S. Whitman Rd  
Rosalia, WA 99170

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ *Ruth Mary was a very loving woman and always had a smile on her face. I would see her at church on Sundays, she always gave me a big hug and a warm greeting. My condolences to Her husband Dave and all of her family Cynthia Campbell*

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**Cynthia Campbell** - November 22, 2021 at 05:10 PM

BF

“ *Ruth Mary always had a smile which cheered everyone.*

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**Beverly Faultersack** - November 22, 2021 at 04:07 AM

CO

“ *Ruth Mary had a friendly smile and welcoming way about her. She was kind and caring to our whole family. We would occasionally see Dave and her, and enjoyed catching up on the family news. Our prayers and condolences to the Preston family. Darrell and Colleen Kuhn and family.*

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**colleen** - November 19, 2021 at 07:57 PM

CB

“ Ruth Mary will always be one of the sweetest and kindest woman I will ever know. I met her when I was 8 on cold Easter Sunday in Rosalia. David and Ruth Mary lived in a small house up on the hill. They were my "new" relatives by marriage. Even at a young age, I was mesmerized by their teal colored appliances in the kitchen and we would often laugh about that as the years went by. I would always look forward to her long Christmas letters with news of her children and grandchildren. Over time I would see them occasionally at Yokes on Hwy 195 and catch up on the latest news of our families. Ruth Mary is now with God in a very special place in heaven. My loving prayers and thoughts are with David and their children. Cindy Blue-Blanton

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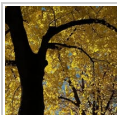
**Cindy Blue-Blanton** - November 19, 2021 at 02:25 PM

CC

Thank you Cindy for the kind words and beautiful flowers. Mom enjoyed your visits and would ask if we had connected in the neighborhood.

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**Connie Conradi** - November 21, 2021 at 12:01 PM



Thanks for the lovely flowers you sent Cindy. Mom always enjoyed your visits over the years.

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**Connie Conradi** - November 21, 2021 at 12:08 PM

VS

“ I remember visiting Ruth Mary & Dave w/ their daughter Nancy, from the 'coast' side of WA, often for Bloomsday races. She always had amazing, fantastic meals for us. Casual but also elegant. Stacks of pancakes for breakfast & multiple types of toppings. Bountiful! Good memories of laughter. My condolences to all the family.

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**Vanya Sandberg** - November 18, 2021 at 01:34 PM