



Dora Mae Mesplie

February 15, 1930 - September 7, 2014

Dora M. Mesplie (84) of Toppenish passed away on Sunday September 7, 2014 at her home. She was born on February 15, 1930 in Wapato to Ray and Georgia (Olney) Brisbois. Dora was raised and educated in White Swan and attended Chemawa Indian Boarding School. On October 31, 1947 she married John Mesplie Sr. in Yakima. As a young woman Dora worked in the different harvest's in the valley and as a waitress. She and John lived with their children at Celilo Falls for a time when the children were young. She owned and operated Dora's Smoke Shop from 1969-1990 in Toppenish and was an original employee of Legends Casino starting in May 1998 and retiring on May 16, 2014 as a marketing assistant.

A proud member of the Yakama Nation, Dora led a very busy life serving her community in various capacities as the first Yakama Member to have a fireworks stand in the 1950's, was a General Council counter for over 50 years, she was an original board member for the White Swan Treaty Days Rodeo and was an associate board member for the Yakama Nation Indian Basketball Tournament, was the first queen for Legends Casino Rodeo, 2014 Treaty Day honorary queen; she served as a two-time Madam President of the Toppenish Eagles Ladies Auxiliary and was past madam President of the White Swan American Legion Auxiliary.

Dora enjoyed spending time with her family and liked to travel to various casino's. One of her last wishes were to go to Hawaii which she was able to do last month.

She is survived by two sons, John (Lexie) Mesplie Jr. of Harrah and Frank (Karyn) Mesplie of Wapato; and one daughter, Cynthia Mesplie of White Swan; 19 grandchildren, Annette, Ron Jr., William, David, James, Stacie, JoJo, John III, Shannon, Cheryl, Jim, Ira, Garrett, April, Alison, Kristen, Nicole, Cody and Cassandra; 34 great grandchildren and 14 great-great grandchildren and a sister, Bessie Aeillo. and her casino family. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, John Sr., 12 siblings and two sons, Marvin "Louie" and Paul.

Visitation will be Tuesday September 9, 2014 from 4-7PM at Colonial Funeral Home with recitation of the rosary at 6PM. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10AM Wednesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in White Swan with interment to follow at Reservation Community Memorial Park west of Wapato. Friends can send condolences at www.toppenishfunerals.com. Colonial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

City of Wapato

(509) 877-2334

Tribute Wall



“ *Dora Mae Mesplie*

October 05, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ *Jack(ie) & Cathy Northover purchased the Sweet est Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Dora Mae Mesplie.*



Jack(ie) & Cathy Northover - September 09, 2014 at 09:02 PM



“ *Grandma Dora, words cannot express what you meant to me and what you taught me about life. I cannot be there today with my family but I am there in spirit praying for your safe journey. I am proud you were my grandma and cherish the time we spent together while I was home. I will be wearing purple today in remembrance of you as it was both our favourite color. Rest in peace. I will meet you at the crossroads xxxooxxx Shannon, Aaron, Sierra and Raven.*



Shannon Mesplie-Cowan - September 09, 2014 at 03:41 PM

GJ

“ I bid a 'see you latter' to my dear elder and friend. I will truly miss her, her smile, and her sharing thoughts and ideas with me, when we would sit and visit at GC. Dora Mae, you lived a good life and worked hard, it is time for you to take a break and rest. Catch up with those who are waiting on the other side to greet you, the ones you missed so very much. We will miss you, but wish you a good journey, do not let anything here hold you back. God, we ask that you will wrap your arms around the family and many friends who are feeling the hurt today, that you will take care of our needs. Live a good life as she did, that is what you can do in her honor. That was what she taught us. I can hear her, 'don't sit still, we have lots of work to do yet'. Go with God. Peace.
Gina Jerry & family



Gina Jerry - September 09, 2014 at 10:10 AM

BD

Such a wonderful woman! I am so honored to have been acquainted with her. Heartfelt thoughts and prayers to the family. Hold on to those precious memories.....
Beth Downs, AAOA

Beth Downs - September 09, 2014 at 10:38 AM