



Norma Jean Eshleman

July 22, 1941 - October 9, 2023

Norma Jean (Souers) Eshleman passed peacefully and surrounded by family on October 9, 2023 at the age of 82 to go home to her Kingdom in Heaven.

Norma is survived by her brother Arlond “Butch” (Diane) Souers and five children: four boys, Jeff (Kristi), Mark (Janell), Rod, Dan (Sarah) and daughter Pamela (Omar) Perez; 12 grandchildren: Brooke, Nick (Melissa), Payton, Nathan, Caleb, Holly (Matt), Gage, Riley, Macy, Anthony, Alex, Matthew; and two great-grandchildren: Ryker and Archer; as well as many cherished brother and sister-in-laws, sister/cousins, nieces/nephews, and friends.

Norma was preceded in death by her parents: Dwight and Marcella (Briggs) Souers; sister: Mary Ann Wilkie; brothers: Richard “Dick” Souers, Dwight “Bubs” Souers Jr. and husband Arvel L. Eshleman; mother in law: Berenice Eshleman; sister and brother-in-laws, cousins and close friends.

Norma Jean was born on July 22, 1941 in Eagle Butte South Dakota and a proud member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. As a toddler, the family moved to Klamath Falls Oregon where she graduated from Chiloquin High School. Then moving to Toppenish Washington and marrying her husband Arvel L. Eshleman.

Norma was a proud homemaker but dabbled with baking cakes and cutting

hair. In 1989 Arvel and Norma purchased A&W Family Restaurant in Toppenish. The business is still in the family but changed names to “Dad’s” after Arvel’s passing and was purchased by her son Dan.

Norma’s most cherished time was gardening and soaking up the sun, visiting with family such as hosting her annual cousins reunion, slumber and pool parties with the grandkids. Norma lived in service of others and was very active in church functions including Saint Helena’s Guild. Norma was a devout Catholic and said she was ready to pass on to her Heavenly Father.

We welcome you to honor Norma Jean’s love, strength and faith with services Friday October 20, 2023 at St. Aloysius Catholic Church at 1pm followed by a luncheon at the Parish Hall across the street. Rosary will be held Thursday night at the church at 6pm.

Previous Events

Rosary

OCT **19**. 6:00 PM (PT)

St. Aloysius Catholic Church
213 N. Beech Street
Toppenish,, WA

Memorial Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **20**. 1:00 PM (PT)

St. Aloysius Catholic Church
213 N. Beech Street
Toppenish,, WA

Tribute Wall



“ I still remember her around the big old tree pulling weeds and planting flowers. May she be rest in peace. My condolences to the family.

M. Vargas - October 19, 2023 at 10:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Norma Jean Eshleman.

October 19, 2023 at 02:46 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Eshleman.



October 19, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Norma Jean Eshleman.

October 19, 2023 at 11:28 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Norma Jean Eshleman.*



October 18, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ *All growing up my family would travel to Toppenish from Canada to stay with Arvel (my dad's cousin) and Norma. My dad always surprised them by just showing up at their door with my mom and a van full of kids. Norma was so gracious to scurry around, making beds and preparing food for her family as well as ours. We always felt like honoured guests even when it seemed like a Christmas Vacation moment with the dreaded cousin and his clan arriving for an unknown amount of time. Later Norma became my aunt through marriage and nothing changed. She was always so gracious and hospitable. She always made me feel like I was her favourite person on the planet. I know this was her way with everyone who knew her. She was loved and will always be loved. I'm so thankful to have these precious lasting memories of Aunt Norma that go back as far as I can remember.*

Selena Nobbs - October 14, 2023 at 09:26 PM

CE

“ *Pam and the Eshleman Family: There is no one in this world like your mother. She was a special woman. Her kindness, generosity and caring nature were second nature to her. She was a good neighbor to my family for many years and very special "extra" mom to my daughter Stacie. She always told me she loved Stacie and she welcomed her over any time you girls wanted to get together. She was a precious lady! I am sure your family is heartbroken and will miss her terribly. Remember, A mother is with us always, first in her lifetime, then forever in our memory. My prayers are with you in your time of grieving.*

Cheryl Ekstrand-Messick - October 13, 2023 at 11:46 PM

TL

“ *Tabitha Liebrecht lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Eshleman*



Tabitha Liebrecht - October 13, 2023 at 05:01 PM

MG

“ *Sending extra hugs, thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. I always enjoyed seeing her smile and getting hugs. She will be very missed!*



Mikal Gadley - October 13, 2023 at 04:01 PM

TF

“ No amount of words can express how much our family will miss this precious Sister-cousin. She was central to our family in every way. We will carry her in our memories and forever in our hearts.

The Dolphus Family

The Dolphus Family - October 12, 2023 at 06:44 PM

JF

“ Janet (JaiDee) Sumner-Janis And Family lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Eshleman



Janet (JaiDee) Sumner-Janis and Family - October 12, 2023 at 02:45 PM



“ Walli Tadena lit a candle in memory of Norma Jean Eshleman



Walli Tadena - October 11, 2023 at 01:24 PM



Loving Prayers, Hugs and Comfort sent to the Eshleman family. My life was blessed to have known such a beautiful lady.

Walli Tadena - October 11, 2023 at 01:28 PM

JN

My family & I loved Norma so very much! When my brother married her he married a real jewel! I loved her as my very own sister& she raised five wonderful children whom we all love very much & our prayers go out to the whole family! She will always be missed!

joyce Nobbs-Buell - October 12, 2023 at 11:38 PM

RL

She was a beautiful woman inside and out. She was my favorite co worker back at Central Memorial hospital days. God bless the whole family.

RuChene Lake - October 20, 2023 at 11:43 AM