

Josephine Harriet

GEZELIN



October 30, 1917 - June 17, 2008

Josephine Harriet Gezelin (Gramma Jo) passed away peacefully at home in the loving presence of her family on Tuesday, June 17, 2008. The daughter of Basque immigrants, Catherine Mong and Louis Harriet, she was born on October 30, 1917 in Elko, NV. She was raised in Ely, NV, with her siblings Shant Harriet, Mary (Sala) Cobega and John Sala. A graduate of White Pine High School, Josephine and her siblings helped their mother run the Ely Hotel. Josephine was a native Nevadan, proud of her deep roots in Ely and her Basque heritage. Josephine married the love of her life, Emile Justin Gezelin in 1939. They lived in Eureka, NV, where Emile taught school. Emile later earned his law degree in 1948 and the couple settled in Reno where Emile practiced law and was later appointed Washoe District Judge. A devoted mother and wife, Josephine's passion was raising their four children, Pierre, Mary Kay, Joanne and John.

Josephine's gentle loving spirit, deep Catholic faith and devotion to family are her legacy. Spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, either in her Greagle home or on Sixth Street was one of her greatest joys. Many fond evenings were spent together enjoying a homemade meal, conversation and laughter. Josephine was an avid sports fan, especially of the University of Nevada, Reno athletics. She followed current events and was never shy to share her thoughtful opinion and insight. Josephine had a gift for making those around her a part of her family and she rarely forgot a name and face.

Her husband, parents, brother, Shant Harriet, Mary Sala (Cobega) and John Sala preceded her in death. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Mary L. Harriet, her son, Pierre; daughter and son-in-law, Mary Kay and Kirk Kinne; her daughter and son-in-law, Joanne and Reese Perkins; and son and daughter-in-law, John and Tracy Gezelin. Her grandchildren are Anne-Marie Hoppe (Charlie), Paul Kinne (Kristine), Pete Kinne (Carli), Katie Nannini (Joe), Christy Perkins, Andy Perkins, Joe Gezelin, Louis Gezelin, Justin Gezelin, Gabriel Gezelin, Patrick and Katie Garner. Her great-grandchildren are Meredith, Kathleen and Mollie Hoppe and Lexi and Leah Kinne.

Family and friends are invited to a viewing on Friday, June 20 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Walton Funeral Home, 875 West 2nd St., Reno. Mass will be held on Saturday, June 21, at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of the Snows, 1138 Wright St., Reno. A rosary will precede the mass at 9:45 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donation can be made to St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral Retrofit Fund, 290 S. Arlington Ave., suite 200, Reno, NV, 89501. We invite you to send a condolence message in the "Remembrance Registry Guestbook" at the website of: www.waltonfuneralhome.com

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