



Mrs. Jeannie Swanson

April 8, 1951 - April 21, 2013

Jeannie (Gies, Johnson, Love) Swanson

Jeannie Swanson born Dora Jean Gies on April 8, 1951, much loved mother, grandmother, sister, auntie and friend to many passed away on Sunday April 21, 2013. Jeannie and her daughter, Vicki were in Orlando, Florida where they had gone to vacation with her younger daughter, Brandi when she was struck and killed by a speeding vehicle.

Jeannie was born in St. Ignatius Montana to Al and Helen Gies. She was the 10th of 13 children born into the Gies family. Being the first girl after 6 boys Jeannie was extra special from day one of her life. Mom said the church bells were ringing the Sunday she was born.

Jeannie left home at a young age to help her oldest brother Bill out in California with his family. She eventually returned to the Jocko Valley where she lived and worked until relocating to Washington State. Here she married Max Johnson and had her oldest daughter, Victoria Lynn. Jeannie and Victoria eventually returned to the Montana area where she married Dave Love and together they had Brandi Nicole. Jeannie and the girls in time

moved back to Spokane and built their lives together there. Her true soul mate and husband of 20 years, David Swanson, preceded Jeannie in death in 2004.

Following complications with her health Jeannie began to live with her youngest sister, Mary in Mead, WA. This arrangement proved a wonderful fit for them both, and was Jeannie's home at the time of her death.

Jeannie was filled with happiness to have her grandchildren close and was looking forward to camping and traveling with Mary in the coming days. Her garden spot was set to plant upon her return from vacation.

Her father Alfred John, Mother Helen, brothers Bradley, Bill and Dan and her sister Kay, preceded Jeannie in death. Jeannie is survived by her daughters Vicki (& Dave) (Johnson) Swanson, Otis Orchards, WA, and Brandi (& Dale) (Love) Doer, St. Petersburg, FL; brothers Jim (WA), Stan (MT), Charley (NE), Randy (OK) and John (MO) and her sisters Shirley Tennison (AZ), Linda (AK) and Mary (WA). Her grandsons Austin and Skylar and granddaughters Tori, Nicole and Natalie as well as numerous nieces and nephews that she loved like her own, also survive her. The delight of her life, Sassy, also survives her and will remain with Mary at her home in Mead.

Jeannie loved to cook and took great pleasure in sharing her culinary skills with friends and family. It was a natural fit for her to waitress, cook or manage several restaurants in Montana and Washington.

Jeannie also found great joy in helping folks in need. She volunteered many hours to AA groups in the Spokane area and joyfully worked as a volunteer counselor to prisoners in need of a friend.

Jeannie was cremated in Florida before her return to WA. A Celebration of Life Mass will take place on June 17 at 11:00 a.m. in St. Ignatius, Montana at the St. Ignatius Catholic Church where the church bells will ring for Jeannie a final time. A committal of Jeannie's ashes will take place following the Mass at the Catholic Cemetery in St. Ignatius, MT. under the direction of Foster Funeral Home & Crematory in St. Ignatius.

A Tribute page has been set up and may be visited by all at <http://www.acommunityfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Jeannie-Swanson/>. Friends and family are encouraged to share a special memory or photo of Jeannie on this site.

Tribute Wall

JH

“ I was honored to have Jeannie be one of my many sister's while I was a child. I have good memories of her and she will always be forever remembered as a sister! God Bless her and her family <3 I will see you heaven dearest Jeanie :)

Sincerest Sympathy,
Jodi Hunter

Jodi Hunter - July 01, 2013 at 04:55 PM

DG

“ I remember Dora Jean as a little girl at Leon Hall. I always admired the Gies children because they were so kind. And, Mrs. Gies always brought such yummy desserts!!

Sincere sympathy,
Diane Allard Grant

Diane Grant - May 19, 2013 at 11:12 PM

JO

“ My deepest condolences to all of you. I share your sadness and feel your loss. I am very sad Jeannie left us so soon and so sudden. I was shocked when I heard of her passing. Jeannie as I will always remember her, was kind, caring, loving and happy. She always made you feel very loved and comfortable around her. She was also funny. She was very positive about life and gave you courage. I miss her and wished I had spent more time with her. But I am happy at least I had the opportunity to meet her at all. She contributed to my life. My prayers are with you. I am here for you if you ever feel you want someone to talk to you.

Joanna

Joanna - May 03, 2013 at 01:23 AM

BB

“ *My heart is with all of you, I have nothing but good memories of Jeannie! What a fun and loving spirit she was.*

Binky Bowman - April 30, 2013 at 08:25 PM