

Obituary

Born: Thursday, April 20, 1939

Died: Wednesday, June 19, 2019

On June 19, 2019, Dalene Marie Cheatham Doney passed away. Dalene married Gordon Doney when she was 17, and they started their life together in Arlee, Montana on the family ranch. The couple were married for over sixty years and enjoyed many things together.

Along with raising four children, Dalene filled her time with cooking great meals for her husband, family and summer ranch hands. She made homemade bread, canned fruits and vegetables. You could always count on lunch at noon, dinner at six. Her cinnamon rolls were loved by all and her brother-in-law, Charles, would always eat way too much when she made her homemade rolls with homemade jam at holiday gatherings. At the end of haying season, she would always make a full Thanksgiving meal for the hands, of course they were too full to do much work after eating, but it made her happy to see them enjoy her food.

She loved to research and plan out family vacations, including camping and fishing. Gordon and Dalene loved to get together with friends and play cards. One of the favorite things while playing cards was Dalene would always pull out some kind of candy to share. Dalene loved to read- romance novels, westerns and history books. She also loved the springtime with all the buttercups and dogtooth violets. She was always watching once the grass turned green in the spring for the first buttercup. When the white daisies were in bloom she could be found out amongst them. Her favorite flower fragrance was the lilacs that grew down along the creek.

Dalene is survived by her husband, Gordon Doney, and their four children, Diana M. Doney (Leah), Tacoma, WA, Kimberley (Brian) Charlton, Winthrop, WA, Jamie (James) Doney-Dove, Rathdrum, ID, and Stacey (Lisa) Doney, Arlee, MT. She is also survived by 15 grandchildren, and 13 great grandchildren. Dalene also has nieces and nephews who hold a special place in her heart. Preceded in death are Karen Ann Doney-daughter, Robert Cheatham-father, Leta Casey Cheatham Parent-mother, Henry Parent-Stepfather, Lela Cheatham Harrington-sister, and Jack Cheatham-brother.

Dalene loved to talk and meet new people. No matter where she went she could always strike up a conversation with someone. She used to tell her kids about her mom doing the same thing and she had carried on the tradition. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends. The world now has one less beautiful smile and a lot of empty stomachs!

Service Summary

Family to do services at later date

family home

600 block 1st Avenue
St. Ignatius, Montana