



Barbara J Warner

January 6, 1946 - December 5, 2023

Obituary of Barbara Jo Neshem Warner as written by her.

Barbara was born January 6, 1946, in Minot ND daughter of E.G. (Bud) and Josie Neshem.

She attended Rolling Green School, a small one room school served by one teacher, teaching grades 1-8. I don't remember the number of students, but probably no more than 20. I attended that school through 6 th grade. Seventh grade, the school was closed and all the children were bussed to Des Lacs. Barbara graduated from Des Lacs High School salutatorian of her class.

During my senior year I started working for Bell Telephone Company as a telephone operator. I continued working for the telephone company after graduation. The following year I married Harlan M. Warner, my high school love, and we moved to Bismarck, ND. I transferred from the Minot office to the telephone office in Bismarck. Our son, Barry, was born in Bismarck.

We moved from Bismarck to Okanogan, WA in 1966, the year after Barry was born. The Okanogan Valley embraced us and became our HOME. (which is more of a 'feeling' than a 'place')

Barbara worked as the Okanogan public librarian satisfying her lifelong thirst

for knowledge and love of reading. She enjoyed all books from autobiographies to historical novels, poetry, text and reference books. She loved 'intuiting' what type of books her patrons would enjoy reading and soon had many patrons relying on her to have their 'next' book waiting for them when they came in. Often hearing them say "what do you have for me to read this week?". Barb also enjoyed doing the children's story hour. Remember "Hunker CHA" and "Cheese, Peas, and Chocolate Pudding"?

I made many friends being librarian and remember the first time I met Judy Hook and her two lovely daughters when they moved to the Okanogan. I remember the first time meeting Janet and the instant connection and my thoughts "I Like her".

From librarian I went to work for The Okanogan Air Service, starting as bookkeeper and growing into "Girl Friday"?? There I gained my private pilots license and spent many years enjoying the challenges of flying and sharing that love of flying with family and friends. On several occasions I encountered snow flying and soon got the reputation of: If you wanted to know if it was going to snow, call Barb and see where she was flying to!

In 1987, I went into the retail business, opening an arts and crafts store, starting with local consignment from local artists and crafts people. That soon grew into home décor and gifts store as I shared my love of beautiful "eye food". Believing that it is the items that you decorate your home (and yourself) with after the basics of table, chairs, bed that 'tell' who lives in that home, what is beautiful to you, that shares a 'story' about you. I have always enjoyed people that I can connect with on a deeper, soul to soul level. I want to know what motivates you to get out of bed in the morning. What do you enjoy? What makes you smile (on the inside)?

From home décor/gifts, the store metamorphed – grew as I grew, changed as

I changed, into more of a 'metaphysical store' – books, music, crystals, candles. I trained and started teaching yoga, became a Reiki Master, reflexologist, electromagnetic field (chakra) balancing, aroma therapist, healing touch therapist and more. My clients became my friends and family.

My Family:

My greatest gift to this world: my children, Barry and Sharlyn. They are our greatest pride and joy. Through them we have grown, learned and loved in ways we never dreamed possible.

Nothing really prepares you for the challenges, responsibility, and incredible joy of having children. I remember how much the responsibility of being a parent frightened me – still does – but your children are great teachers, if we just knew how to be better listeners!

It is with great joy we have welcomed and loved our three grandchildren, Justin, Brianna and Helen!

Each year I love my husband, Harlan, more deeply – doesn't seem like nearly 60 years together! I desire to spend more and more time just "being" with him!!

I believe at the end of this earthly life there is only one question: Did I Love enough?

That it is only the Love that goes with you and lives on in the lives you leave behind, and that it is that love that will re-unite you one day.

Barbara passed away on December 5, 2023.

Visitation for friends will be held from 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM Thursday, December 14th at River Valley Funeral Home on Elmway in Okanogan. A service will be held 10:00 AM, Friday, December 15th 2023 at River Valley Funeral Home with a brief graveside following at the Conconully Pioneer Cemetery.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **14.** 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

River Valley Funeral
2547 ELMWAY
OKANOGAN, 98840-9629

Funeral Service

DEC **15.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 PM (PT)

River Valley Funeral
2547 ELMWAY
OKANOGAN, 98840-9629

Graveside Service

DEC **15.** 11:30 PM (PT)

Conconully Cemetery
1750 Conconully Road
Okanogan, WA 98840-9537

Tribute Wall



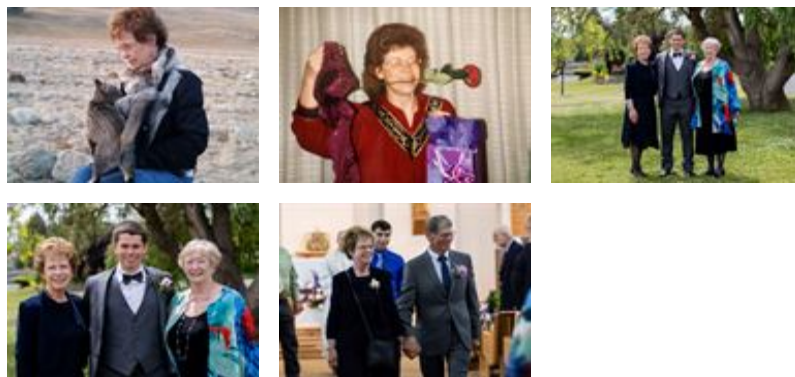
“ 8 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



River Valley Funeral & Cremation - December 14, 2023 at 11:18 PM



“ 73 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



River Valley Funeral & Cremation - December 13, 2023 at 06:02 PM

GS

“ Gene and Carol Sharratt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara J Warner.

Gene and Carol Sharratt - December 13, 2023 at 12:46 AM

GS

“ Gene and Carol Sharratt purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Barbara J Warner.



Gene and Carol Sharratt - December 13, 2023 at 12:46 AM



“ While passing ends a life, it does not end a relationship. As long as Carol and I are alive, we will have a special relationship with Barb. She was special in so many ways, a wife, mother, grandmother, and in so many other ways to so many people. We feel privileged to have been her friend. Her "happy heart" provided such joy to love to others. She was a beautiful person who lived a loving and beautiful life. She gave so much and expected so little in return. She will be missed, but never forgotten. Love to Barb and appreciation for the love she gave others.

Gene Sharratt - December 13, 2023 at 12:41 AM

JM

“ Dearest family of Barb,
I'm sorry she's gone so early. Perhaps it was her time to go. I know she's not far and just on the other side. Now she can help and guide from her heavenly home.
She is a beloved and beautiful Soul. She helped me and many others along the journey. She had so much love for life and shared her gifts with many.
Know you are in my thoughts and prayers with peace, comfort, love, and joy, now celebrating her life well lived.
Peace be with you.
Jim Maher

Jim Maher - December 09, 2023 at 08:19 PM