Elizabeth "Bette" (JONES) HARTNETT, 1922 ~ 2009

HARTNETT, Elizabeth (Bette) (Age 87) Painter and graphic artist, musician and choir director, golfer, world traveler, and a lovely renaissance woman well known for her grace and charm, Elizabeth (Bette) JONES HARTNETT lived a full and exciting life. Above all, she was a wonderful mother, a supportive wife, an active member of her community and an enterprising business partner.



Born 30 Jul 1922 in Butte MT to Tom and Anna Marie (TOBIN) JONES, Bette spent her early years in Portland, Oregon. There she graduated high school from St Mary's Academy in 1940. When she was ten years old, she was selected to play the piano at KEW radio station in Portland and later to win a partial scholarship in both music and art to Marylhurst College in 1940.

Bette moved to Helena, Montana after high school where she was employed with Mountain States Bell and there she met John (Jack) HARTNETT, a college student and a pilot. In February 1942, Ensign HARTNETT and Bette JONES married at St Helena Cathedral and later moved to New York City where the U.S. Navy assigned Jack to Floyd Bennett field. Here her first daughter, Daryl, was born. Bette returned to Portland where her second daughter, Suzanne, was born in 1945. Jack and Bette moved to St Maries, Idaho where Jack operated the Texaco distributorship. During their years in St Maries, two more children were born, John Jr '66 and Maureen ('71).

Bette was active in her church where she was choir director, her children's small Catholic school and her community, the Mothers Club and the Bridge Club. Her prized possession in St. Maries was her piano. She was renowned for her ability to play by memory any popular tune.

In 1963, the couple bought the Texaco distributorship in Coeur d'Alene. Bette became an active partner in Jack's business while staying active in her family's lives and schools. Bette always warmly welcomed her children's friends to their home on Vista Drive. She became a good golfer and a putter extraordinaire. They lived on the 18th fairway of the Coeur d'Alene Golf Club and enjoyed golfing together. Bette also re-kindled her artistic talents and began seriously painting. She produced a large collection of fine oil paintings. In retirement, they spent their winters in Mesa, Arizona among other retired friends from Coeur d'Alene.

At the Alta Mesa Country Club, Bette was not only very active in women's golf league but she was able to put her artistic talent to work and designed the graphics and logo for the league. Bette loved to travel but said that she liked the planning as much as the trip. Her many travel albums are carefully detailed with photos and graphics from all over the world. Bette was stricken with Alzheimer's in 1999 and finally succumbed to the disease on August 7, 2009.

She is survived by her loving husband and lifelong companion, Jack, and her four children, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A vigil service will be held Wednesday evening at the Yates Cd'A chapel. The funeral mass will be Thursday, 13 August 2009 at St Thomas Catholic Church in Coeur d'Alene with burial following at St Thomas Cemetery. A reception will follow the burial, at the Coeur d'Alene Resort. The family prefers memorial donations in Bette's name to the Alzheimer's Association. Please visit Bette's memorial and sign her online guestbook at www.yatesfuneralhomes.com

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