
Barbara Jean Van Riper(1932 - 2018)



Barbara Jean Van Riper passed away June 1, 2018 at her home in Ophir California at the age of 86. She was born February 27, 1932 in Auburn, California. She is survived by daughter, Susan Van Riper (Freedom), son-in-law, Mercury Freedom, son, Jay Van Riper, brother, Ronald L Dorer, niece, Jane Dorer and grandnephew, Nicholas Dorer. She is preceded in death by her parents, Lutie and Vesta (Davis) Dorer, her husband Richard Van Riper and nephew Richard Dorer.

Barbara graduated from Placer High School in 1949. She loved her high school years and has taken part in many class reunions. She married her high school sweetheart, Richard in 1950. The couple settled in Ophir where they lived all 57 years of their married life.

Barbara served as Secretary of Ophir Elementary School for 26 years from 1962 until retiring in 1986. She greatly enjoyed her work and her interactions with teachers, students and staff. After retirement she remained involved in the Ophir School community.

Barbara cared deeply about people, she was compassionate, generous, had a good sense of humor and was loved by the many whose lives she touched.

Barbara had a passion for history. She was a member of the Placer County Historical Society in which she held several offices including President. She recorded and transcribed numerous oral histories from residents throughout the area, helping to preserve the history for future generations.

Barbara was one of the founders of the Ophir Area Property Owners Association and, over the years, served as President, Treasurer, Secretary and Board Member of the association which worked to maintain the environmental well being, rural nature, and prosperity of the region.

Barbara enjoyed writing poetry and some of her poems have appeared in local publications. She also loved horses, football, travel, flowers and her home.

She will be remembered for her love of her family and the deep caring she had for the history, people and future of her community.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, June 24 at Lassila Funeral Chapel in Auburn, California.

Funeral Home

LASSILA FUNERAL CHAPEL - Auburn

551 Grass Valley Highway Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 885-6271

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