



Melba Louise Pippin

June 25, 1923 - March 21, 2011

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The Pippin family has suffered the loss of our matriarch, our beloved Melba. She died in her home the way she lived, with the utmost dignity and grace. Melba, from the day she was born until she breathed her last breath, was the true definition of a lady. Born, raised and baptized Southern Baptist in Zion, AK, she was raised to be a tough, hard working person, but always a lady first. She worked in the cotton fields of Arkansas; the orchards of Washington State; the office of Wenatchee Body and Fender; and as a homemaker, house wife, mother and grandmother for 70 years. Melba married Ervin Pippin on October 25, 1941, and remained happily dedicated to him, the love of her life, until his death in May of 2001. She raised one of Wenatchee's finest, Sgt. Terry Pippin (retired), who served the Wenatchee Valley for 24 years. Her four grandchildren have carved out lives of their own since becoming adults. Each one of these lives were possible because of Melba's constant pillar of love, respect and support. Even in her later years, beneath her frail (and eternally) beautiful exterior, was a rock of love, hope and happiness. Always one to put things simply, she said to one of her grandchildren in New York City eight months after Ervin's death, about how she was still going strong, "Well... you just gotta keep living."

Melba leaves behind her only child, Terry and his wife, Pat; her four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; her brother, J.C. Haywood of Witchita KS; and her dear sister, Jan Hough. Melba was an aunt, great-aunt, great-great-aunt and great-great-great-aunt to countless nieces and nephews, chief among them, Dana, Jim, L.C. and his wife, Rilla, Billie and her husband, Paul, Norma and Melba's 'little redhead,' Jenna. She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers; and two sisters-in-law.

To say that our beautiful Melba will be missed is an understatement. Wherever she is, she will be seen with a warm smile, her hair perfectly done and, whatever she will be wearing, she will make it look like a million dollars. And, she will be a lady.

A Funeral Service will be held Thursday, March 24, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. at Telford's Chapel of the Valley, with pastor Kel Groseclose officiating. Concluding Services and Interment will follow at the Wenatchee Cemetery. Viewing will be held Wednesday, March 23, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Arrangements are by Telford's Chapel of the Valley, East Wenatchee.