Barbara J. VanGelder

Her Legacy… Barbara Jean VanGelder was born on February 24, 1926 in Berkeley, California to Walter “Pop” & Ellen “Nonnie” Matthews. She lived most of her life in the San Francisco Bay Area and attended Albany High School. She worked alongside her husband Tom in their Office Equipment Stores (Van’s Office Machines) in Berkeley and Walnut Creek until they sold the businesses and relocated to Oroville in the mid 1980’s. Once in Oroville, Barbara being full of energy, was not happy just being retired and proceeded to devote many years as a volunteer at Oroville Hospital and working at Wal-Mart with those who she referred to as “My Group” a group of colleagues who became her best friends and who were revered as her second family. Barbara loved her dog Sophie, life, a good laugh and a glass of wine. She had strong roots in the Eastern Star, going back to her childhood and her Mother and Grand Mothers participation. If Barb had an addiction, it was Travel. She loved her trips and cruises in the Caribbean, Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, New Orleans and throughout the U.S. Barbara started her last journey on February 9, 2013 as she passed away quietly in her sleep.

Her Family… Barbara is survived by her son Paul, daughter-in-law Barbara Ann, grandson Nathan, Nephews Walter & Raymond Matthews, Grandnieces & nephews; Mark, Shari, Lisa, Alexis, April, Melissa, Amanda and Wyatt. She is preceded in death by her husband Tom VanGelder, daughter Caron VanGelder, her parents Walter & Ellen Matthews, her brothers Raymond and Elwood “Bud” Matthews, James Silver, sister Francis De la Riva and nephew William “Billy” Matthews.

Her Farewell Service … A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, February 23, 2013 at 2:00 PM at Ramsey Funeral Home 1175 Robinson St., Oroville. We will gather at the family home following the service for refreshments. Arrangements are entrusted to Ramsey Funeral Home 530-534-3877.

Please sign their guest book at www.RamseyFuneralHomes.com

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