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## Gloria Frances Straight



### Gloria Frances Straight

Was born in San Francisco, California on November 17, 1933 and passed away peacefully in her home on December 18, 2012 at the age of 79. She was born to Elizabeth Bird and Alfred Roysum. Gloria had one brother Ronald Roysum. She grew up in Reno, NV and attended the University of Nevada at Reno, where she met her future husband James Straight. They were married on August 22, 1954. They started their family and moved to Southern California. Gloria had always aspired to be a teacher so after marriage and having four children she continued college at Cal State University, Los Angeles, where she graduated in 1966. She began her teaching career at Jurupa Hills Elementary, Fontana, as a first grade teacher. She was also a Program Manager and District Resource Teacher and later taught 2nd grade and Kindergarten at North Tamarind Elementary. Gloria returned to college and earned a Master's degree in School Administration at Cal State San Bernardino in 1982. Gloria had a passion for literacy and began storytelling

as Mother Goose. She visited classrooms, libraries, children's bookstores and other public venues to share her love of Mother Goose rhymes. Gloria retired in 1999 after 33 years in Fontana Unified School District.

Gloria was actively involved in many organizations. She was involved with campfire girls and the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, where she is a majority member and had the honor of serving as an officer (Grand Service) of NV in 1952. She is a member of Eastern Star, past president of Fontana PTA (multiple times), past president of Pi Lambda Theta and Past president of Foothill Reading Council. She presented literacy workshops for International Reading Association conferences. She enjoyed her membership in the Beatrix Potter Society and loved reading the story of Peter Rabbit to children. She was an advocate for the National Alliance for the Mentally ill and for the Association for the Mentally Retarded. She was also involved in the local prospector and model T clubs along with her husband Jim.

Gloria loved spending time with her family, gardening, reading, cooking, decorating her home, ceramics, sewing, painting and her cats. She was the heart of the family. We love her and miss her every day.

She is survived by her husband Jim Straight, daughters Betsy Stevenson and Katy Hernandez, granddaughters Crystal Jackson, Lily Berkebile, Amanda and Rachel Straight, great grandchildren Bella, Zoe, Robert and Jesse, and her cousin Lynne Bonine (Reno, NV). She had two sons, Jimmy and Douglas Straight who are deceased.

A memorial celebration of her life will be held at the United Church of Christ in Redlands located at 168 Bellevue, on January 12th at 11am.

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