



Date of Birth

Apr 18, 1919

Date of Passing

Jan 08, 2013

JOSEPHINE ABEL

Josephine (Jo) Doerr Abel, a long time Juneau resident, passed away at the age of 94 on October 8, 2013 at the Sitka Pioneers Home. No public services will be conducted at her request. Jo was born on April 18, 1919 in Boise, Idaho to John George (J.G.) Doerr and Maude (Mueller) Doerr. She was raised in Boise along with her two brothers and sister, and graduated from St. Teresa's Academy. Following high school, Jo attended the University of Idaho in Moscow and about that time began her lifelong love of baseball when her older brother became partial owner of the Twin Falls (Idaho) Cowboys minor league baseball team. Over the years she became an avid fan of the Seattle Mariners and a memory she cherished was attending a Mariners game and sitting in a box seat. In the early 1940's, her intrepid spirit led her to her beloved Southeast Alaska where she met and married Donald Bruce Abel, Sr. They settled in Juneau and that is when the adventure of Jo's life truly began. Together Don and Jo hunted, fished, and explored Southeast Alaska. She prided herself in being able to attract a bear pretty much every time she stepped into the woods and learned very quickly how to handle a gun. The family spent countless days aboard their boat "Willing" which along with Don became known as "Willing and Abel." She was also active in Don's business, Don Abel Building Supply. Don and Jo raised five children, Don Jr.

(Lois), K. Joe (Jean), Jim (Betty), Bonnie Urresti, and David (Lyn). She was very active in their lives as they grew up and never missed one of their school activities or sporting events. Jo never viewed herself as a good cook, but could bake a pie that would attract her kid's friends almost daily to her home after school. She loved to knit and kept all family members in socks and sweaters throughout their childhood. She was an accomplished bridge player and active with the Pioneers of Alaska. In 1974 she and Don purchased a condominium in Honokowai, Maui, HI and they enjoyed annual "winter breaks" in Hawaii until Don's death in 1983. She made many good friends during her time in Hawaii and continued splitting her time between Juneau and Maui until selling the condo in 2007. Jo loved to laugh and her quick wit and sharp tongue will be missed by her entire extended family who survives her including her 5 children, 16 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great grandchildren. To support the continuing care of home residents, those wishing to make a memorial donation may submit them to: Sitka Pioneers Home Auxiliary Fund Sitka Pioneers Home 120 Katlian Street Sitka, AK 99835

Memories of Josephine



