



Erika Therese Cranmer

MAY 18, 1925 - AUG 21, 2015



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Erika Therese Cranmer

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Erika's work on earth was completed August 21, 2015. Her Lord and Savior called her home that morning with the American Flag in view from the window nearby. To try and summarize her amazing life would take another life time to tell the tale.

Erika was born in Munich Germany in 1925. Her young years witnessed the tragedy of WWII that took over her birthplace and developed her strong spirit of survival that never left her. She had a strong love for her grandfather, her foster parents and a fiancé that was killed in action fighting for Germany.

In 1948, she married a US Soldier, Samuel Wright and came to the United State of America under the War Bride Act. She traveled via ship and arrived in New York harbor in December of that same year and eventually settled in Washington State. This marriage eventually ended and Erika married her second husband, Robert Edward Cranmer in 1955.

Her love for her new country was strong as Erika became a naturalized citizen in 1951 and registered to vote that same year. She never missed speaking her voice through the election process. Erika's name resides in the Pierce County's Voter's Hall of Fame. Erika was often heard to say, "If you can say you live in America then you can speak my name which is Erika." Erika was very proud of her service to her country via her years as a Civil Servant. Her final position of 39 years before retirement was Chief of Stockfund with the 9th Finance Support Unit, Fort Lewis WA. Her passion for numbers shown in her accuracy to always keep the numbers balanced.

Upon retirement, Erika became fully active in partisan politics, again proving her love for America. She tenaciously worked as the treasurer for many Republican groups, as a volunteer representative in the Washington State Fair booth for the party and as an election extra hire with Pierce County. Again her love of accounting was shown to insure all ballots counts for her polling place were balanced and accurate before being turned in.



Obituary

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The only thing Erika loved more than her country is her Lord and Savior. Erika dedicated time in her retirement to insure that Tillicum Baptist Church was always welcoming with flowers. For years her best friend, Janet Garrison, joined her each week in caring for this ministry.

Erika was the leader and patriarch of her family and leaves a hole that only the love of our Lord can fill. She is preceded in death by both spouses and her two sons, Robert Emory Cranmer and Thomas Wright. Erika is survived by her daughter, Karen (Michael) Hague, her granddaughter, Krystal (Jesse) Chiarolla, her grandson Todd (Cat) Seesz and 7 other grandchildren and many great-grandchildren. Her great granddaughter, Annie was the apple of her eye and Annie misses her Oma very much.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 PM, October 10th, 2015 at Tillicum Baptist Church, 8415 Maple St SW, Lakewood WA. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to Tillicum Baptist Church and earmarked for the Fire Restoration Project. Erika was quite saddened by the loss of the church's parsonage and prayed for a way to help. In her final days this was her request and Erika prayed that each giver to her final wish receive a thousand blessings from the Lord in return for honoring her last earthly task.



Events


Erika Therese Cranmer

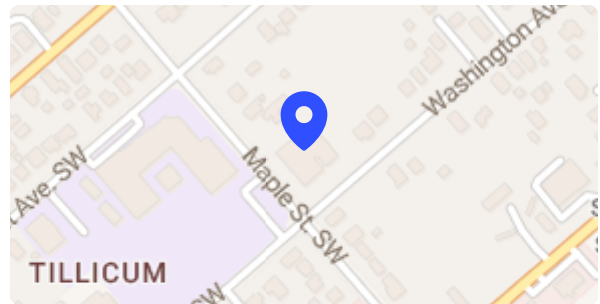
MAY 18, 1925 - AUG 21, 2015

Celebration of Life


 **Saturday**, October 10, 2015


 2:00 PM PT

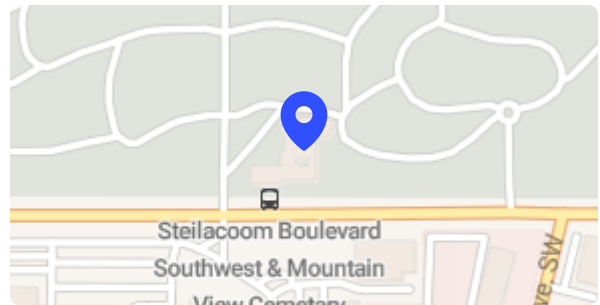
 **Tillicum Baptist Church**
8415 Maple St SW, Lakewood WA 98499



Cemetery Details

 **Mountain View Memorial Park**
4100 Steilacoom Blvd. SW, Lakewood WA
98499

 **(253) 948-9895**





Tribute Wall

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PM

Patricia Mcrae posted:

Mrs. Cranmer was like a second mom to me. Her and my father taught me what it was to be an American and to love this country and all of the things it offered. She talked about her life in Germany. She Loved the Lord with all her Heart and I will never forget the bible she gave me. I still have it and treasure it. I feel so blessed by God for having the opportunity to have been part of her life and for her to have been part of my life. I will always love you mom and can't wait to see you in Heaven with our Lord Jesus.

October 8 at 9:40 AM



Denise McCluskey posted:

Erika held a passion and a love of democracy. Her work to ensure that American rights and freedom were protected through the electoral process within the Republican party will not be forgotten. She is a true patriot. Erika - I am sure you are in peace, love and freedom in heaven. Denise McCluskey

September 5 at 4:31 PM

CR

Cristy posted:

Erika Cranmer was one of the people who helped frame my career as a government employee. I first met Erika in 1980 at the 9th Finance Accounting branch where she served as the Chief of the Stock Fund accounting branch. She possessed the true spirit of a dedicated employee who treated the accounts she was responsible for as if they were her own checkbook. I fondly remember her taking Account Receivable bills with her when she went TDY to assure collection and nothing was more important to her than accurately portraying the accounts of two Stock Funds for which she was responsible. I learned many life lessons from her and will always hold my memories of working with her close. One could not hope to meet a more patriotic American; she held the values of the United States close to her heart and truly demonstrated the spirit of "one nation under God", support for the troops and love of family and friends. Many causes will miss her daily involvement, but will live on through her having made a profound difference. Karen and Krystal I know you will miss your Mom and Oma but you should find comfort in knowing she truly made a difference in many people's lives. She loved you all so very much. I can't tell you how special I think the Pledge of Allegiance is as a part of your saying goodbye video; she lived those words daily throughout her life. I consider myself lucky to have known this great American! Cristy Gunderson-Meadows

August 31 at 6:01 AM



Tribute Wall

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DM

David & Virginia Morris posted:

Erika had an unforgettable personality. We have known and loved Erika for many, many years at Tillicum Baptist Church. While in Africa as missionaries for the last 30 years, we relied on the fact that Erika was praying for us. Every furlough we anticipated seeing her when we visited Tillicum and were always welcomed by her love for our family. We too will miss her, but anticipate a great reunion one day in the presence of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Erika had a wonderful testimony of her relationship with Jesus. It was real and unwavering. We also appreciated her great love for the United States of America, her patriotism, and tireless work to try to keep America "the land of the free" and "one nation under God." She was a woman who knew hard work, who lived out her strong convictions, and trusted ultimately in a Good and Sovereign God. We are thankful to have known Erica Cranmer and to have been counted among her friends. David & Virginia Morris, Amanzimtoti, South Africa

August 27 at 10:22 PM

CW

Colleen Wise posted:

I met Erika through Pierce County Republican Party. She counted the money and you did not dare add a penny to the pile if it was not counted. She volunteered and was a true inspiration. I am sure she is doing just fine in Heaven as she will let them know if anything is out of place. Will remember her always. Colleen Wise

August 27 at 2:34 PM



Tribute Wall

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Lucile Summerlin posted:

I remember Erika's surprise 80th birthday party, and all the people who came to celebrate. I remember Erika at the GOP booth at the Fair and how she would talk to the people about America's Constitution (she even carried one in her purse) and how important it is to vote. I would go to her favorite concession stand and get her a cup of soup, which she enjoyed while sitting in the booth. We now live in Nampa, Idaho, and I will not be able to attend the October gathering, but know that I will always remember what a wonderful woman you mom was. This is a wonderful photo of her; look at that smile.

August 27 at 2:28 PM



Delores And Mangum Tulfo September 12 at 7:24 AM

Our dear, dear Erika was the "go to" person for every election I can remember and always available for Magnum and I, to answer our election questions. She was on top of everything American and vigorously exhorted each of us to become involved in our government and to vote, reminding us that Freedom isn't Free. Erika spoke from her very own personal experience, when my husband asked her if she had ever been back to visit Germany, without a blink she said, "I didn't leave anything there, this is my country now". Erika was the most devout American Patriot we have ever met, and to her credit she gave all the Glory to God. Rest in Peace dear heart. Soli Deo Gloria



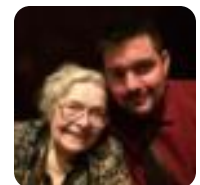
Karen Hague shared 4 photos to the **Family Love** album.



August 27 at 5:53 AM



Karen Hague shared an album called **Family Love**.



August 27 at 9:08 AM



Krystal Chiarolla posted:

August 27 at 5:53 AM

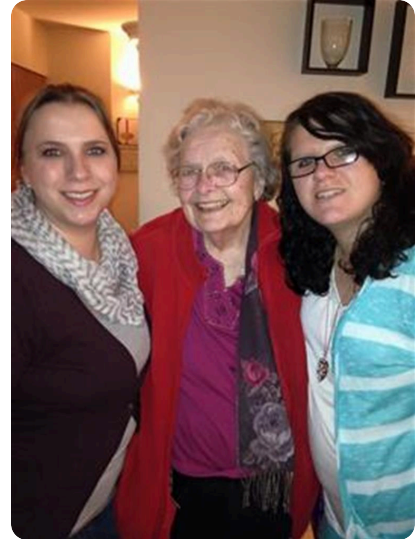


Karen Hague shared 4 photos to the **Family Love** album.

August 27 at 9:15 AM



Jim and Erika - Mike's Dad, Karen's Mom



Oma with Krystal and Lori



4 Generations



Girl's Lunch Out



Media

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Karen Hague shared a photo to the **Family Love** album.

August 27 at 9:08 AM



Oma and Todd



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Erika by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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