

## **Lola Jean Cook Rigby - October 19, 1925 - May 24, 2002**

### **Obituary: Rexburg Papers**

Lola Jean Cook Rigby passed away peacefully on May 24, 2002, after a seven-month battle with cancer. She fought her illness with dignity, grace and courage. She was at home in the care of her family at the time, and had been constantly surrounded by those who loved her.

Lola was born October 19, 1925, in Leslie, Idaho. She was the youngest child of Dean and Edith Chamberlain Cook. When Lola was 11 years old, her family moved to Idaho Falls, Idaho. After graduating from O.E. Bell Junior High School and Idaho Falls High School, she worked as a cashier at Paramount Theatre, where she met Ray Wendell Rigby.

Lola had been accepted to BYU, but never attended because Ray came home on furlough from the Army Air Corps and completely changed her plans. They were married December 8, 1944, in the Logan LDS Temple. After Air Corps training in Arizona, Texas and New Mexico, the war ended, with Ray just two weeks away from graduation as a B-29 Flight Engineer.

Lola and Ray decided to continue Ray's education at the University of Idaho, where he graduated from law school. He was elected Madison County Attorney even before he started practice, and they moved permanently to Hibbard in 1950. Ray later started the law firm of Rigby, Thatcher, Andrus, Rigby, Kam and Moeller, where he is still in practice today.

Lola found contentment in her home with her children, caring, loving and guiding them in the most affectionate way with the greatest amount of patience, completely supporting her husband as he fulfilled his many and various callings in the church, his profession, his legislative work and rotary assignments. Lola was the perfect companion and partner for Ray, always being there to attend to his needs, which he was able to reciprocate so beautifully each and every day during her illness. She and Ray have virtually traveled around the world on vacations and fulfilling different assignments, particularly Rotary Inter-national. "It has been a good life, and I have always been happy, especially when I can be with my husband, my family, and my grandchildren."

Lola has been active in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints all her life, having served willingly and faithfully in many callings in the church. She served in both ward and stake Relief Society presidencies and as a Junior Sunday school coordinator. She especially enjoyed her calling with Ray as a counselor in the Idaho and Pocatello Mission presidencies, and transcribing blessings for Ray as a patriarch.

She was such a positive force in the lives of all of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. By example, she taught the gospel of Jesus Christ to all who knew her. She will be so missed. The grandchildren will miss shopping with their grandmother for their birthdays; her daughters will miss her phone calls; and everyone will miss the family gatherings at the cabin in Island Park, her wonderful cooking (especially her pancakes), the Christmas Bingo games and her happy countenance. We are grateful for our years of association with her and our knowledge that we will be with her again in the next life.

She is survived by; her husband Ray; two sons, Jerry Ray (Shelly) and Blair Joseph (Denise) both of Rexburg; five daughters, Laura (George) Copeland of Jacksonville, Florida; Beverly (Larry) Boyle of Boise, Idaho; Joyce (Douglas) Garner of Centerville, Utah; Beth (Ted) Hendricks of Rexburg, Idaho; and Natalie (Mark) Critchfield of Springville, Utah; 38 grandchildren, and 22 great-grandchildren.

She is also survived by one sister, Lucille (A.C.) Hansen of Orem, Utah. She was preceded in death by her parents Dean and Edith Cook and three brothers; Delwin, Blaine, and Reed Cook.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, May 28, at 11 a.m. in the Rexburg LDS North Stake Center, 314 East 2nd North, with Bishop Kenton Anderson officiating. Family and friends may call Monday evening at Flamm Funeral Home in Rexburg from 6 to 9 p.m., and on Tuesday at the church one hour prior to services. Interment will be in the Rexburg Cemetery.