



Celebration of Life for
Ruth DeGabriele

June 13, 1920 - Feb. 21, 2021



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Ruth DeGabriele

Saturday, March 27, 2021
2:00 p.m.

Prelude	<i>A Selection of Ruth's Favorite Hymns</i>	Elisabeth Ellis, pianist
Gathering Words		Rev. Jeremy Smith
Opening Prayer		Rev. Jeremy Smith
Special Music	<i>On Eagle's Wings</i>	Ron Barnum, soloist
Remembrances	Denise, Dale, Michele, & Roberta DeGabriele	

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Homily		Rev. Jeremy Smith
Special Music	<i>“Devoted to You”</i> by Al DeGabriele	Ron Barnum, soloist
Prayer of Commendation		Rev. Jeremy Smith
The Lord’s Prayer	<p>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.</p>	
*Blessing		Rev. Jeremy Smith
Postlude	<i>I’ll Fly Away</i>	Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Participants

Pastor - *Rev. Jeremy Smith*

Pianist - *Elisabeth Ellis*

Soloist – *Ron Barnum*

Audio/Visual – *Holly Harvey & Chris Russell*

RUTH BREUNINGER DEGABRIELE

Ruth was born on a farm near Frankfort Kansas on June 13th, 1920, to Joanna and Charles Breuninger. She grew up in a family of two sisters, Rose and Winona, and 4 brothers, Raymond, Edward, Eugene and David. She was the fifth child and oldest girl.

Ruth was 17 years old when her family sold the family farm and headed west to Oregon. After graduating from Woodburn High School in 1938, Ruth went to Portland to participate in a New Deal government program offering young women the chance to learn marketable skills, a dormitory in which to live, and help in job placements. She taught volleyball for a few months at a recreation center before being recommended for a position as a live-in nanny and housekeeper for a family with two young girls. At age 20, she moved to Portland, living in the Washington Hotel, and becoming the first woman bellhop of the city. A year later, she moved to Seattle to work at Boeing's Protection Plant Department, fingerprinting for the FBI and processing photo badges for the next 10 years. Occasionally, she was also asked to be a photo model for some Boeing promotional activities.

In Seattle, Ruth found life-long friends at her church, and remained a member for 74 years.

Al entered her life in 1946, when she lived in an apartment above the store he bought with his brother. Al wrote the song "Devoted to You" while courting her. and it was sung at their wedding in 1950. Al and Ruth had a loving marriage of 64 years, enjoying many years of church fellowship, traveling, family reunions, camping, hosting exchange students, wintering in Yuma, and dancing together.

Ruth loved her children, Denise, Dale, Michele and Roberta, and welcomed their spouses, Mark, Janise, Brent, and Brian into the family. She celebrated the arrival of each treasured grandchild; Caitlin, Keith, Gabriel, Kalli, Dallas, and Owen. As well as the matriarch of her own family, she became the aunt that kept the larger DeGabriele and Breuninger families connected, as well.

While raising her kids, she was involved in their scouting organizations and camps, Children's Orthopedic Hospital, and church women's groups. In the mid -1970s, she began 20 years of volunteering for Seattle's Juvenile Court Diversion Program.

For 30 years she was employed as Seattle First United Methodist Church's Wedding Hostess/Food Service Coordinator, coordinating large weekly dinners and over 500 weddings. During the 1970s she also, coordinated food service at Camp Indianola and later served on its Site Council Board.

Ruth enjoyed painting, sewing, upholstering, quilting and rug braiding. Al would always admiringly say, she was good at anything she tried.

As a lover of any type of celebration, she would want us to rejoice in our sweet memories of our lives shared with hers.