



Mary Vacilla Behnke

November 7, 1924 - June 4, 2016

Our mom, sister, aunt, gran and friend, Mary “Miki” Behnke left us on June 4, 2016, at the age of 91.

Miki’s early years were spent in Vista, California, during the Depression years. Her family relocated to Horse Creek. Her parents were Oliver and Annie Zornes, and siblings, Ann Menefee (Oroville), Nancy Sparks (Etna), Julian Zornes (South Dakota), and Don and Alvie Zornes (both deceased).

At age 14, Miki left home to attend Yreka High School and supported herself throughout her high school years.

She married Fred Tufts of Yreka and they had four children, Sandra Nordquist (Roseville), Paul Tufts (Kathy Shaw) (Avalon Beach, Australia), John Tufts (Yreka) and Kathy Hall (deceased).

Miki sewed beautifully and also decorated cakes for her children and friends; she made several beautiful wedding cakes.

She was a kind and generous mom and grandma. She spent much time involved with her grandkids, great grandkids and most recently her great great grandchildren. “She was always there to help us.”

After her children were grown, Miki bought and sold real estate. In 1985, she

sold her rentals and moved to Sacramento and led an eventful and exciting life. She traveled much of the world and made several trips to Australia. She brought many friends with her to Australia.

After a long and eventful life, Miki wanted to move back to Siskiyou County and in April, she returned to Yreka, where she was lovingly cared for by her grandson, David Hall, and his wife, Alia.

Miki is survived by three children, nine grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

She had a full and complete life and lived by the motto, "Leave no fun undone." "She will be missed by all of us."

A memorial service for Mary Behnke will be at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 12, 2016, at Miner Street Park in Yreka.

Tribute Wall

RS

“ I knew Miki when I was little girl. I remember her as a very sweet lady. She made the most beautiful birthday cakes for Sandi that I had ever imagined possible. My thoughts with all you "kids". Ruthie Wilson Stacy

Ruth Stacy - June 10, 2016 at 11:51 PM