



## Shirley Drahn

February 8, 1925 - April 15, 2009

Shirley Ann Smith Drahn passed away at her home on April 15. Her beloved grandson, Lee, was at her side.

Born in Minneapolis, Minn., Shirley was the daughter of Angelina Marie McGraw Smith and Courtney Elroy Smith.

She had been a resident of Corvallis since 1950. She worked in the Oregon State University Seed Laboratory, retiring in 1976.

Shirley was considerate and thoughtful, a gracious friend to everyone. She was a kind person whom people liked immediately. Her inner strength was an inspiration. She had a way of bouncing back from adversity or illness that inspired the nickname "Energizer Bunny." Even through her last illness, she maintained her sense of humor; she loved a good joke.

Shirley was an excellent cook who enjoyed preparing lavish meals for family and friends. She and her husband, Gene, had an extensive flower and vegetable garden. She spent many hours preserving the produce from the garden. Shirley was famous for her crisp dill pickles. Special friends with whom she shared her recipes counted themselves fortunate.

Her family was most important in her life, especially the children, who delighted her. In any gathering, she would always be found playing with the children; she treated them all with respect.

Shirley was preceded in death by her daughters, Joanne Schwartz and Barbara Henke, and her husband, Gene Aubrey Drahn.

She is survived by her son, Ted Holmes of Philomath; her grandson, Lee

Ortman of Plano, Texas, and his wife, Sonia; and brothers Courtney E. Smith Jr. of Melbourne, Fla. and his wife, Joyce, and Dennis T. Smith of Minneapolis and his wife, Barbara. Also surviving are brother-in-law Ron Drahn of Corvallis and his wife, Erma, and their son and daughter, Scott and Susie Drahn; stepson Rob Drahn of Newport and his wife, Kim, and their son and daughter, Matthew and Jennifer Drahn; and grandson Rick Andrews.

A graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, June 1, at Oak Lawn Memorial Park.

Memorial donations can be made to Heartland Humane Society, Benton County Dial-a-Bus, or the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence of Corvallis.