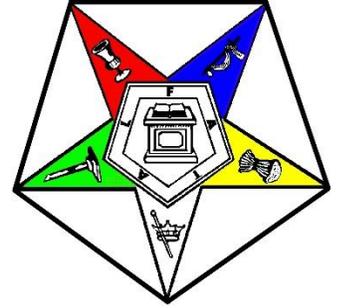




Grand Chapter of Utah Order of the Eastern Star

In Memorium

Ruth J. Hodges, PGM
Worthy Grand Matron 1982-1983



The Grand Chapter of Utah reports the passing of Sister Ruth J. Hodges on February 15, 2021. Sister Ruth was born June 10, 1931 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to William and Josephine (Spykerman) Walkotten. She was the oldest of two children.

Her family moved from Michigan to Milford, Utah where Ruth attended the fifth grade. When they moved to Salt Lake City, they joined the Centenary United Methodist Church where Ruth made many life-long friends, some from the intra-church basketball and volleyball. She was a Liberty Park area resident most of her life.

She attended Liberty Elementary, Lincoln Junior High and South High Schools. She graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in Elementary Education. She taught sixth grade at then the brand-new East Millcreek Elementary School.

She married Ralph B. Hodges on August 2, 1957. They were the parents of Robert (Jean) of Saginaw, MI. and of Richard (Kelly) and Rebecca of Salt Lake City. Even after she quit teaching she was committed to education, serving in the PTA and as a Volunteer committee member. No Radiant Chapter bake sale was complete without her cookies or pies. She was a member of the PEO until her chapter closed and later made many new friends in the Reviewers book Club.

She loved reading, crafting, animals (especially cats and wild birds), baking and cooking. She played tennis and always followed the professional games. Even after she and Ralph quit attending games, she was a proud fan of University of Utah athletics and she and Ralph had season football tickets for more than 60 years. Ruth cared deeply about people and enjoyed lunch of a cup of coffee or tea with friends as much as anything.

She is survived by her children, four grandchildren (Brittany, Jessica, Daniel and Erin), sister-in-law's Dee and Fran, and her nieces and nephews and their families. Preceded in death by her parents: husband Ralph, brother William; sister-in-law Alice and Marcia; brothers-in-law Jim, Ken, Howard Paul and Einer Olsen; nephews Clay and John.

In lieu of flowers unless you plant then this spring, donations may be made to the Grand Chapter OES of Utah Scholarship fund or the MCRF (Salt Lake Masonic Temple Restoration Fund,) Please send donations to Radiant Chapter #12 OES (650 East South Temple, SLC, UT 84102) Note where you would like the donation to go and it will be forwarded.

The Grand Chapter of Utah extends our sincere sympathy to her family, friends and members of Radiant Chapter #12. As a tribute to her, it is requested that the Alter of each Chapter be draped for a period of 30 days and a prayer be offered in her memory.

P. Alexandria Poglajen
Worthy Grand Matron

David J. Read
Worthy Grand Patron

Karen B. Pullman
Grand Secretary