

# Eunice Jean Davis Quinby

October 1, 1932-June 26, 2023

Jean passed on June 26, 2023 in Edmonds, Washington following several months of limited mobility at the age of 90. Born in Riverside, California on October 1, 1932 to Margaret List (homemaker) and Raymond Richard Davis (patternmaker to a foundry), Jean was raised in Seattle, WA. Her Husband, Harold Quinby, of 73 years passed away 3 months later. She is survived by their two children Hal Quinby (Ann) and Connie Winter (Mitch), and brother Phillip Smith (Jeanne). Grandchildren Loren Winter (Katie), Walter Winter (Kristy), Marie Lee (Justin), Kelly Quinby, and Stefanie Aiken (Chris); great grandchildren Graham Winter, Caden Winter, Harrison Lee, Chloe Winter, Henley Winter, Madison Winter, and Avery Aiken; and several cousins. Brother Raymond Richard Davis predeceased her.

Sometime during her childhood, she wanted to know exactly what the expression "as far as you can throw a cat by the tail" meant, so she searched out a cat, and attempted to throw it by its tail. She was caught and admonished. Jean and her brother Dick spent a year in foster care in Bothell. The following year was her favorite time in childhood - the year she was 11 – and spent it in Kirkland in the North Rose Hill neighborhood with her beloved Aunt Eunice Belle and Uncle Chester Himes. She often said it was the only year she was allowed to be a kid and spend the entire school year in one school (before high school).

While in high school, Jean designed and sewed for herself. She wanted to take the school's tailoring class, but they refused her due to a lack of taking lower-level sewing classes. She then brought in and showed the home economics teacher several of the outfits she had designed and created on her own. She was allowed to take the class, graduating from Queen Anne High School in 1950.

She and Harold Quinby met on a blind date the summer of 1949, in front of the Bon Marche. They eloped the following March 18<sup>th</sup>, and held a reception April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Jean had sewn her ivory satin wedding dress and the tailored suit she wore to their reception.

Jean was an active leader at Cooper Elementary in West Seattle, chairing the annual carnival and serving as PTA president. She was active in getting a pedestrian overpass over Delridge Way SW to the school, which she cut the ribbon for in 1960. She also served as a Cub Scout Den Mother for several years. Jean's sewing became focused on dresses, jumpers, and skirts for her daughter through her elementary school years. Then her daughter began sewing for herself.

Jean worked for Sears Roebuck and Co for 31 years as a bookkeeper, responsible for the commercial sales division. Despite working, she still served a hot meal for breakfast and dinner daily, and packed everyone a lunch each morning. She always enjoyed gardening, especially fuchsias and begonias. It took over an hour to water them daily.

Throughout their lives together, Harold & Jean had several Collie dogs, starting with Lady. She was followed by Bonnie, Misty, Kris (Misty's daughter), Ginger, Angel, and Lexi. They were all unique and well-loved companions in the family.

Harold & Jean purchased a 1931 Chevrolet 4-door sedan in the early 1970s, opening up new friendships & adventure with the Puget Sound Chapter of the Vintage Chevrolet Car Club. They traveled around the NW in their vintage car, towing it to Denver to motor up Pikes Peak with their club.

A couple years later Harold and Jean also started road touring on Honda 750s, each on their own bike. They enjoyed campouts and poker runs with the 99ers, and a 2-week trip to Yellowstone with their daughter and son-in-law.

With her children grown, she took up quilting. Beautiful quilts her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren enjoy. She was an active member of Quilters Anonymous for many years after retirement in Mukilteo, volunteering and entering quilts at the annual show at The Evergreen State Fairgrounds in Monroe. She won several ribbons. Her local quilt group remembers her fondly as a knowledgeable and kind matriarch. Her daughter has many fond memories of their trips to Sew Expo together over the past 4 decades.

She was an excellent cook, and enjoyed reading cookbooks. She was also an avid reader, often staying up late at night when a novel pulled her into its grasp. Jean's smile, laugh, and caring nature will be missed by her family and friends. She was well known for her delicious baked beans, cookies, crescent rolls, fruitcake, holiday meat loaf (that pushed aside the perennial and reliable Quaker Oats recipe), lasagna, red velvet cake, and sticky buns. She is probably matching up points on quilt blocks in heaven.