

Mary Packard Emmer, 84

Mary Packard Emmer entered eternal life on Thursday, March 28, 2013, in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Mary, a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was born April 17, 1928, to the late Clayton and Catherine (Duggan) Packard. In 1950, she married James Joseph Emmer, also of Minneapolis. They moved from Excelsior, MN to Hope, ID in 1997. She is survived by their ten children, Marcy (Mac) Graham; James (Wendy) Emmer Jr.; Christopher Emmer ; Michael (Jane) Emmer; Katy Emmer; Kevin (Nancy) Emmer; Jeff (Laura) Emmer; Molly (Denis) Simko; Melissa (Glynde) Mangum; Clayton Emmer; fourteen grandchildren: Miles and Spencer Graham; Emily Scarlett, Kate Murphy, Sarah Hawn, and Madeline Emmer; Jeremy Emmer; Riley and Jessa Emmer; Lily and Wesley Simko; Jackson, Tucker and Cooper Mangum; two great-grandchildren; and three Packard nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband and by her brother, C. Palmer Packard.

She was a beloved wife, mother, friend, and mentor, who opened wide her heart to many people with diverse backgrounds and needs, including those who would live for an extended time in her home, experiencing her nurturing care. A graduate of Pine Manor Junior College (Chestnut Hill, MA) and the University of Minnesota, she was a lifelong teacher, helping start a Montessori program and homeschooling her youngest children. She took great interest in alternative approaches to education and medicine. She had a keen sense of awe for beauty in the world, especially in nature; a playful sense of humor; a passion for creative arts; a vibrant Christian faith; and an adventurous, independent, and generous spirit.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 am on Monday, April 1, 2013, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 111 West 5th Street, in Clark Fork, ID, 83811. Fr. Bob Lilly will be the celebrant.

Memorial contributions may be made to one of the following non-profit organizations (no flowers, please): The Filling Station, a Christian youth center being built in Clark Fork, PO Box 777, Clark Fork, ID 83811; Covenant House, an outreach to homeless young people, Times Square Station, PO Box 731, New

York, NY 10108-0900; and The Nature Conservancy, 4245 North Fairfax Drive,
Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203-1600.
VA 22203-1600.