

Nelma Tolman Irvine

April 14, 1922 ~ October 29, 2020

Nelma Tolman Irvine was born April 14, 1922, in Rigby, Idaho, to Justin and Alice Ashdown Tolman. She died on October 29, 2020, at age 98. Raised in Salt Lake City, Nelma graduated from South High School and the University of Utah. She later received her Master's and Teaching Specialist degrees from Brigham Young University. She served two L.D.S. missions—first in the Northern States Mission, in Chicago, and later, with her husband in Mexico City.

Nelma married Arnold Irvine in the Salt Lake Temple, on March 28, 1946. She was a loving wife and amazing mother to Rosemary (Joseph) Appel of Chino, California; Judith (Michael) Nelson of Murray, Utah; Mark (Maryann Luke) of Cove, Utah; and Jay (Robin Brinkerhoff) of Longview, Washington.

She loved teaching and taught Home Economics in Davis County schools for many years. Later she taught at B.Y.U., where she also supervised student teachers. She served faithfully in her church, in many capacities. While serving as a stake camp director, she proposed building a girls' camp in the Uintah Mountains and worked with others to make her vision a reality. Her special project, Camp Piuta, has blessed the lives of young women and their leaders for many years.

Nelma created lovely homes and made close friends everywhere she lived—from Bountiful (Val Verda) to Draper and Lewiston in Utah, then in Sun City, California, and finally in downtown Salt Lake City. She spent her final years in the loving care of Mark and Maryann in the peace and quiet of Cove.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her sister Dorothy Reeve, and her brothers, Ray and J. Keith Tolman. She is survived by her children, 18 grandchildren, and 43 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service for close family members will be held on Friday, November 6. We will gather in the summer (we hope under better conditions) to honor Nelma and celebrate her remarkable life.