



The Hall  
Family Kathy  
Jenny & Barney  
appreciates the kindness  
& good food provided by  
the Grange for the "get to  
gather" after the church  
services with Pastor  
John Morgan. Ever-  
thing went great.  
"millie" would  
be pleased  
Barney.

**Mildred Kathleen Cumle Hall**  
November 2, 1925—January 9, 1999

Memorial Service  
January 16, 1999  
Gardiner Community Church  
Gardiner

Reception following  
Jamestown s'Klallam Tribal Center  
Blyn

## Mildred Hall—A Short Biography

Mildred Kathleen Cumle Hall was born on November 2, 1925 in Seattle, to Mildred Estelle Fogleberg Cumle and Olaf John Cumle. They lived in the Greenwood neighborhood of Seattle. Her brother Kenneth was born there in 1928. Olaf had a troller and fished for salmon. During the Great Depression the market for fish could no longer support the family so they moved to Port Madison, Bainbridge Island when Mildred was in the first grade.

In 1935 she moved with the family to the family home in Winslow. Her youngest brother, Ned was born in 1939. Millie lived on the island throughout her school years. She was active in her church. In high school she was busy with many clubs and excelled academically. Her kind nature was apparent to her classmates even then. One prediction in a high school yearbook was that she would open an orphanage.

In later years, she worked at the grocery store. When her Japanese classmates received their orders to move to the concentration camps, she was deeply saddened and spoke of the teary good-byes at the old ferry dock. She was also proud of her mother's powerful letter to the newspaper decrying the internment of the Japanese citizens. As the war deepened she joined the effort on the home front while still a senior in high school. She worked at the shipyard in Eagle Harbor soldering pipes and still managed to graduate as the salutatorian of the class of 1944.

She went on to nursing school at Cabrini Hospital and Seattle University and earned her LPN degree in 1946. While at the shipyard she had met Johnny Hansen. They were married in 1945. Her Daughter Kathy was born in 1946. Johnny was also a fisherman and was tragically killed in an accident in Alaskan waters in 1949.

Mildred and Kathy were living next to a nice family in the new housing projects built for returning GIs in West Seattle. The mother helped babysit Kathy. The youngest son took a liking to the pretty young mother and soon Barney Hall proposed to Mildred. They were married in 1950. The young couple made their home on 44th Avenue in West Seattle. Their second daughter Jenny was born in 1952. Millie was a consummate homemaker, Brownie Scout leader and a charter member in the Genessee Hill Orthopedic Guild and active in the PTA. She sewed many of her daughters' clothes. In 1963, the family moved to a house on 36th Avenue.

With a growing family, she worked at a bakery, and at Sears in the candy department. When the girls were mostly grown she went back to school and got her medications certification so that she could return to nursing. She

worked for several years at the St. Vincent's home in West Seattle, providing nursing care for the retired nuns.

When Barney retired from the Seattle Fire Department in 1973, they bought 15 acres near Sequim. Millie spent the next 26 years working at Barney's side transforming a tangle of second-growth fir, cedar, alder and blackberries into a beautiful yard, garden and network of trails that surrounds a lovely home in which she took great pride keeping neat as a pin. She and Barney took care of her father, Olaf in their home for 4 years after his stroke in 1975 until his death in 1979. He regained his ability to speak, walk with a walker and feed himself again, under their gentle care. Later, they had enough leisure to become quite active square dancers, enjoying a wide circle of square dance friends for the next 16 years. They were charter members of the Rhod-E-Os club. She enjoyed sewing outfits so they could match as a couple. She and Barney were also members of the Rhododendron Grange. One of Millie's greatest pleasures was to curl up in the shelter of some driftwood while Barney beachcombed. She eventually did open an orphanage of sorts although it was for stray cats, having as many a 4 or 5 at one time. When her grandsons Peter and Daniel were born in 1985 and 1988, respectively, she began giving them the loving care and guidance that were her trademark.

She was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 1988 but was able to continue dancing and working around the home and walking in the woods she loved so well for a number of years. As her condition increasingly limited her abilities to cook, clean, garden and play with her grandsons, Barney took over more and more of those responsibilities for the two of them.

When she required some nursing care herself he even took on those duties, aided by other family members including Peter and Daniel. Eventually those needs became too great, and she received the assistance of a number of kind care givers at home and outside the home at Quail Hollow, in Sequim and finally, at Messenger House on Bainbridge Island.

Millie spent this last Thanksgiving and Christmas at home and shared warm holidays like so many she had created for us over the years with her creativity, love and hospitality. A few days after Christmas she developed an infection. With some extra nursing efforts she was able to rally enough to have warm visits with close family and friends. Near the end, she reaped the kindness, love, spiritual and intellectual depth from seeds she had planted in many ways throughout her life. She was attended by her family in a loving, song-filled vigil through the end. She departed from her body in the loving arms of Barney, Kathy and Jenny on Saturday, January 9, 1999.