

Sally J. Ryan, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, cousin and friend passed away peacefully on April 1, 2025, in Issaquah, WA. She was 85 years old.

Born on June 21, 1939, in Seattle, Washington, Sally grew up in a close-knit neighborhood on Haller Lake in north Seattle, she attended Lincoln High School, where she was a cheerleader, and went on to the University of Washington, continuing her cheerleading for the Huskies while earning a Bachelor of Arts in Education.

Sally dedicated her career to being a school teacher, where her kindness, patience and genuine care for her students left a lasting impact. She took a break from teaching when her first child, Denis, was born but later returned to education when her boys were older. Beyond the classroom, she was deeply engaged in her community and loved nothing more than spending time with friends and family.

She embraced life fully, finding joy in every season – skiing in the winter, gardening in the spring, playing tennis in summer, and enjoying fall Saturdays at Husky football games. But her greatest joy came from being with her family, especially her grandchildren. Babysitting Maya, Jake, and Delaney brought her immense happiness and pride.

Sally will be remembered for her warmth, generosity, and the deep love she shared with those around her. She had a rare gift for making people feel truly seen and cared for, and her zest for life brought joy to so many.

She is survived by her devout husband, Dennis F. Ryan; her sons, Denis and Sean Ryan; her daughter-in-law, Alisse Ryan (wife of Denis); her cherished grandchildren, Maya, Jake and Delaney Ryan; her sister, Pam Pattison; and her many close cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, Katherine and Lester Brainard.

A funeral service to honor Sally's life will be held on Monday, May 19, 2025, at 11:00am at St. Bridget Church in Seattle, Washington. All who knew and loved her are welcome to attend.

Sally's legacy of kindness and love will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.