

There is a legend that has often been told
Of the boy who searched for the Windows of Gold.
The beautiful windows he saw far away
When he looked in the valley at sunrise each day.

And he yearned to go down to the valley below
But lived on a mountain covered with snow.
And he knew it would be a difficult trek,
But that was a journey he wanted to make.

So he planned by day and he dreamed by night
Of how he could reach the Great Shining Light.
And one golden morning when dawn broke through
And the valley sparkled with diamonds of dew,

He started to climb down the mountainside
With the Windows of Gold as his goal and his guide.
He traveled all day and, weary and worn,
With bleeding feet and clothes that were torn.

He entered the peaceful valley town
Just as the golden sun went down.
But he seemed to have lost his "Guiding Light,"
The windows were dark that had once been bright.

And hungry and tired and lonely and cold
He cried, "Won't You Show Me the Windows of Gold?"
And a kind hand touched him and said, "Behold!
High on the Mountain are the Windows of Gold."

For the sun going down in a great golden ball
Had burnished the windows of his cabin so small.
And the Kingdom of God with its Great Shining Light,
Like the Golden Windows that shone so bright —

Is not a far distant place, somewhere,
It's as close to you as a silent prayer.
And your search for God will end and begin
When you look for Him and find Him within

Celebrating the Life of Joan "JoAnn" Schmitt

Born to Urgel and Isabelle Bouchard

August 31, 1935 ~ Sidney, Montana

Returned to Her Heavenly Father

November 24, 2025 ~ Hillsboro, Oregon

Memorial Services

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 1:00 pm

Fulkerson Stevenson Memorial Chapel
Sidney, Montana

Officiating

Deacan Mitch Anderson

Urnbearers

Daniel Schmitt and Richard Schmitt

Reader

Nicholas LaMora ~ "I'm Free"

Music Selections

"Amazing Grace" - Alan Jackson

"How Great Thou Art" - Loretta Lyn

"If Heaven" - Andy Griggs

"The Lord Is My Shepherd" - Dolly Parton

Final Resting Place

Newlon Cemetery
Sidney, Montana

Luncheon

Following Graveside Services
Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home
Sidney, Montana

Arrangements By

Fulkerson Stevenson Funeral Home
Sidney, Montana

Celebrating THE *Life* OF



Joan "JoAnn" Schmitt
August 31, 1935

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November 24, 2025

Joan “JoAnn” Schmitt, beloved mother and grandmother, passed away at her Hillsboro home on Nov. 24, 2025, to be with the Lord and Savior, her husband, parents, brothers and sister. She was 90 years young.



Born Aug. 31, 1935, to parents Isabelle and Urgel Bouchard, Joan was the youngest of four children. She grew up on her family’s ranch across the Yellowstone River east of Sidney, Montana — where she rode horses, worked in the beet fields and spent time with her family.

Joan attended Newlon School in Sidney from first through seventh grade, Sidney Junior High School in eighth grade and Sidney High School from ninth through 12th grade, graduating in 1953.



While in high school, she met the love of her life, Jim Schmitt. The two enjoyed ice skating, dancing, playing cards and talking with one another. After high school, Joan worked as an operator for Bell Telephone Co. while Jim served in the U.S. Army. They married in March 1955 and were together for 67 years until Jim passed away.

Raising four children, Joan kept busy as a stay-at-home mom. She was a devout Catholic and served as a member of the Altar Society in Montana before their family moved to Oregon in 1969, where she lived for the rest of her life with her family.

Joan had a knack for crafts: sewing, macramée and crocheting beautiful doll dresses, afghans and doilies. Among other pastimes, she tended to her garden, cooked meals for her family and baked delicious treats like orange rolls and rahmkuchen.



In her later years, she loved spending time with her grandchildren, watching her TV programs, and playing pinochle and Aggravation. Her love and warmth will be dearly missed.

Joan is survived by her two daughters, Kathy (George) Hackleman and Theresa (Bill) LaMora, both of Oregon; two sons, Dan (Cheryl) Schmitt of Texas and Richard (Annette) Schmitt of Oregon; 18 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, two brothers and sister.



"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."- Revelation 21:4

