

<a href="#">Local News</a>	<a href="#">Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Opinions</a>	<a href="#">Spotlight</a>	<a href="#">School</a>	<a href="#">Classifieds</a>	<a href="#">Archives</a>	<a href="#">Seldovia.com</a>	<a href="#">Gazette Services</a>
<i>A truly unique shopping experience - Gifts for that special person! Friendly - Affordable</i> <b>HERRING BAY MERCANTILE</b> <a href="http://www.herringbaymercantile.com">http://www.herringbaymercantile.com</a> Located in beautiful downtown Seldovia - 275 Main St.								
<a href="#">Current Spotlight</a>   <a href="#">Spotlight Archives</a> - click year : <a href="#">2005</a> • <a href="#">2006</a> • <a href="#">2007</a> • <a href="#">2008</a> • <a href="#">2009</a> •								
<b>Our Beloved Mother, Evelyn Ruth (Wheeler) (Hopkins) Apperson</b>								<i>by Bill Hopkins</i>



Evelyn Apperson passed away in Bend , Oregon at 8:45 PM PDT on September 29, 2007. She was born in Petaluma, Sonoma County , California to Ida Rose (Collins) Wheeler and Wesley Thayer Wheeler on July 5, 1928. She was raised on their dairy farm at Sunny Slope, west of Petaluma. In her youth, she helped milk 44 cows by hand twice per day. As a teenager, she met her future husband, Jack W. Hopkins, also of Petaluma. In 1945, Evelyn moved with her family to a ranch in Indian Valley, near Greenville, Plumas County at the northern end of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. She graduated from the Greenville High School in June 1946. Jack sailed worldwide in the Merchant Marine before and after the end of World War II and returned from the sea in 1946. Evelyn

became a master mariner and ship pilot on the waters of Cook Inlet between Homer and Anchorage, Alaska. They built a large log home in the center of Seldovia. Jack died tragically in an aviation accident off Anchor Point in Cook Inlet on December 19, 1977.

In 1978, Evelyn was chosen to become the Magistrate for the Seldovia area. She attended to these duties for a year. Evelyn then remarried to Rawlins Apperson of Kenai, Alaska, on May 25, 1985 in Seldovia. In 1989, they moved to the Crooked River Ranch in central Oregon.

married Jack Hopkins in Reno, Nevada on November 17, 1947.

They began their married life on the coast at Orick, California, where Jack was beginning his logging career falling old-growth redwood timber. Jack came down with polio and Evelyn helped to nurse him back to health. In 1948, the couple relocated to Greenville and began their family and business. Jack purchased logging equipment and grew it into the Hopkins Logging Company. At one time, they managed three (sides) different logging operations at the same time.

Evelyn did all the accounting, payroll, and bill paying. For the next 22 years, they operated the Hopkins Logging Company. Evelyn with Jack raised their three sons, Bill, Jim, and Tom. She was an expert cook and gardener, with a deep fondness for western Americana, horses, good books, and Native American art.

In August 1969, Jack and Evelyn sold the Hopkins Logging Company and moved to Seldovia, Alaska near the western tip of the Kenai Peninsula. It was an epic family journey by air, land and sea. Jack returned to the sea working up the ranks to

Evelyn was a beloved wife, and a wonderful mother to her sons. Our mother was strong, firm and calm. We shall miss her loving kindness and wisdom. She was a devout Christian and believed in our Lord, Jesus Christ, and lived life fully.

Evelyn is preceded in death by her first husband Jack W. Hopkins and her daughter, Jean Ann Hopkins. She is survived by her second husband, Rawlins Apperson of Crooked River Ranch, Oregon. Her three sons and their wives are: Captain William and Wynn Hopkins of Ketchikan, Alaska; James Hopkins and Linda Hedgecoth-Hopkins of Seldovia, Alaska; and, Tom Hopkins and Marsha Million-Hopkins of Homer, Alaska. There are nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by two brothers, Lloyd Wheeler of Anchor Point, Alaska, and James Wheeler of San Luis Obispo, California, sister-in-law Rita Wheeler of Ajo, Arizona; and nieces, nephews, cousins, and their families.



Evelyn in her 1982 Seldovia Garden with a huge zucchini and a bowl full of strawberries



The Hopkins Family in 1960: Tom, Jim, Bill, Evelyn, Jack



1959 - Picture taken in Sattley, CA. Bill is holding their dog, Spike. Next is little Tom (seated on the truck), son Jim is standing next to



December 1977 The Hopkins Boys (left to right) Tom, Jim, Mother and Bill

Mother (Evelyn) with Dad (Jack)



Grandmother Evelyn with Katie Hopkins in 1984



Evelyn pictured here with her mother, Ida Rose (Collins) Wheeler, and her first Granddaughter, Katharine Jean (Katie) Hopkins



Evelyn and Rawlins Apperson

Copyright © 2007 Seldovia.com, Inc. and Seldovia Gazette. All rights reserved. The Seldovia Gazette is published weekly by Seldovia.com, Inc. Contents of this publication may not be used or reproduced, in whole or in part, in any form or manner without the express written permission of Seldovia.com, Inc. [Click here for additional details.](#)

