

Book Author Information

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About the Cooneyites

Revised May 15, 2026

Grace (Manary) Luxon Nymeyer, age 77, of Lynden was taken to her heavenly home on June 9, 2018 while surrounded by the love of her family. Grace was a lady of great faith, facing her last days with peace and confidence. She was born Benora Helen Grace Manary in Foam Lake, Saskatchewan on February 5, 1941 to Robert and Benora Manary and grew up in Vancouver, BC where she thrived in school and developed a love of writing, music, piano, painting and gardening until swept off her feet by American serviceman, Eugene Clark Luxon.

After they were married on October 25, 1957, she moved to Washington where their four children were born. During their 51 years together, Grace worked tirelessly with her husband raising her family, researching and writing books, running a small family farm and helping to build beautiful homes in Washington, Oregon and California. After their children were grown, the couple settled in Abbotsford, Lynden and Birch Bay, while she worked as the office manager of Lynden Family Chiropractic til she retired in 2013. Her gracious nature exemplified her name. Grace loved faithfully, inspired and encouraged many and was always ready with a kind word. She enjoyed tending her home, koi pond and rose gardens.

Grace was preceded in death by her husband of 51 years, Gene Luxon; parents, Robert and Nora Manary; sister, Marilyn Van Nuys; and niece, Vikki Carlson Grant. She is survived by her four children, Tim (Bev) Luxon of Kirkland, Tralee (Samuel) Randolph of Merced, California, Lane Luxon of Sumas (Jacqueline Harrison, fiancée'), and Andrew Luxon of Merced, California; two grandsons, Jeremy Luxon of Seattle, and Aaron Luxon of Kirkland; sister Dorothy (Frank) Carlson of Arlington; nephew Steve (Brenda) Carlson of Woodinville; nephew Gary (Shawna) VanNuys of Abbotsford, BC and niece Sarah VanNuys of Maple Ridge, BC. She is also survived by her second husband of three years, Richard Nymeyer of Lynden; his three children Jaylene (Ken) Berg of Everson, Julie (Matthew) Bovenkamp of Puyallup, and Jen (Chas) Dugaw of Mount Vernon; and his numerous grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life honoring Grace will be held at 3:30 PM on Friday, June 22nd, at Faith Community Church, 586 Birch Bay Lynden Road, Lynden, WA 98264, with a reception to follow. The family extends special thanks to Whatcom Hospice, Northwest Calvary Chapel, and Faith Community Church. You are encouraged to share condolences and memories online at www.sigsfuneralservices.com

[Read Obituary online](#)

Dr. Patricia Thelda Roberts passed away September 29, 2014, aged 95 years.

She is buried at Sydare Cemetery, Co. Fermanagh, Ireland

[Click Here to read Dr. Roberts' obituary.](#)

Dr Patricia Thelda Roberts (11 December 1919 – 29th September 2014)

A Service of Thanksgiving at Ballycassidy Funeral Home on 1st October 2014

The following reading was given by her grand niece Victoria Roberts at her Service of Thanksgiving.

Dr Patricia Roberts, known to family and friends as Paddy was born in December 1919 at Drumcullion, Ballinamallard. The youngest child of Emily (nee West) and William Hamilton Roberts who had eight children: West & Lena, Edna & Joe, Jim & Jack, Sybil and Paddy. She had a very happy childhood surrounded not only by her siblings but by her many cousins: the Wests at Mullaghmeen; the Wests at Crocknacrieve, later at Rossahilly, and the Reids at Gortaloughan.

She was educated initially at Mullaghmeen school then at the Model School before attending Enniskillen Collegiate. She was bright and loved to learn and might have gone to university had the Second World War not intervened. Instead she went to London to train as a nurse at Guy's Hospital. She lived in London through the Blitz and during the war lost not only a favourite cousin Ronald West, but also her beloved father, and her sweetheart. She also joined the Bank of England working at the wartime base in Winchester before returning to Threadneedle Street. She lived in London through the 1950s and after a brief period with the Civil Service in Northern Ireland decided to follow her brothers, West and Jim, to California.

In America, she began her academic career graduating from UCLA with a B.A. in English Literature in 1964. She then studied at the Sorbonne in Paris before taking her M.A. in French Literature at Columbia. Remaining in New York she went on to take her Ph.D. at New York University. The 1960s were an incredible time to be a student, whatever your age, and she loved this time particularly her life in New York.

Now as Dr Roberts she began her teaching career at first teaching English at the Institute de Paris before travelling to Iran to become Assistant Professor in French Literature at Pahlavi University, which is now the University of Shiraz. In 1979 the Shah was deposed

and this diminutive Irish lady was forced to flee.

Happily her collection of Persian art also survived the revolution and would later fill her home at Bridgemont. She returned to California from Iran and took up a post with the UCLA at Berkeley where she remained until she retired home to Fermanagh in 1984.

Settled at Mullaghmeen her life was filled with gardening societies, history societies her family and her faith. She published four books in this period chronicling the Go Preacher movement known colloquially as Cooneyism. She also wrote about the lives of the main preachers including Edward Cooney and Fred Wood.

All of this alongside her own work within the fellowship. The movement was embedded deeply in Fermanagh life due to the legendary conventions at Crocknacrieve from 1904-1921 which thousands attended from across the British Isles, and further afield, for up to 4 weeks. The legacy is recorded in her books and are a fascinating read not purely as an historic record but also as a testament of faith.

Despite her small stature she had immense courage, a deep intellect and great integrity . She also had a mischievous sense of humour, a love of debate, and an amazing memory. She knew and cared about what each of her 10 nephews and nieces were doing and even more impressively what her host of great nephews and neices were interested in. In the last years when a fall precipitated a decline and a move to Millcroft Nursing Home she would still recite Wordsworth, Shakespeare and Longfellow whose Tale of Hiawatha was a particular favourite.

She was a true Christian with a deep and abiding faith. She was an inspiration to all of us and a wonderful example of a long life lived well.

Patricia was the last of her generation, having been predeceased by her siblings. She is survived by her nieces and nephews – Emily, Terry, Caroline, Daisy, Mary and the late Joseph, Fermanagh. Charles, John and Howard, Sligo; Paul, California; and the late Barney, California; the wider family circle and her friends.

The family would like to thank the staff of both the Millcroft Nursing Home and Ward One of the South West Hospital for their care in recent years. Without the love and devotion of family and friends she could not have lived independently for as long as she did. Those friends included her great neighbours John and Joan Ennis and a dedicated team of carers. Thanks are also due today to Mr Acheson for leading this service of thanksgiving and to Austin and Roberta Stinson for their help with the funeral arrangements.

A Service of Thanksgiving was held at Ballycassidy Funeral Home on October 1, 2014. Burial was at Sydare Cemetery. The funeral arrangements were by funeral director Austen Stinson, W.T. Morrison, Enniskillen, who is also acknowledged by the family.

The following books were written by Dr. Patricia Roberts:

1. **The Life and Ministry of Edward Cooney, 1867-1960**, 1990 (ISBN 0 9510109 4 8)
 2. **Selected Letters, Hymns and Poems of Edward Cooney, 1867-1960**, 1991
 3. **Selected Letters of Fred Wood 1890-1986**, 1997
 4. **The Go Preacher Movement- An Anthology**, 2000
- William Trimble, Ltd., Enniskillen, N. Ireland, Publisher

Douglas Stephen Parker (Doug) was born in 1930 in Padstow, NSW Australia. (no obituary found). From about 1985 to 1995, Doug was a hospital chaplain in a number of hospitals in the Illawarra District, south of Sydney. After he retired at age 65 in 1995, he and his wife, Helen, resided in Vincentia, NSW Australia. **Doug passed away April 16, 2014, aged 84 from cancer.** His parents, a son and all his siblings predeceased him.

Read his biography at: [Biography of Doug Parker](#)