



Elaine Eaton Pugsley

November 29, 1936 - April 23, 2026

Elaine Eaton Pugsley, 89, passed away on Thursday, April 23rd, 2026. A celebration of life will be held 3pm Friday May 15, 2026, at the First Baptist Church with Pastor Clint Walker officiating. She was born on November 29, 1936, in Torrington, Wyoming, the daughter of Wendell and Verona Eaton, and was raised there, maintaining deep ties to the community throughout her life. Elaine grew up working alongside her siblings in her family's business, The Valley Mercantile, where she learned early the importance of responsibility, service, and caring for others. She attended Torrington High School, graduating in 1954, and then went on to attend Colorado Women's College in Denver.

In 1956, Elaine married the love of her life, Jack Pugsley. Following their marriage, Elaine and Jack continued their education together at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Elaine carried a lifelong respect for education and learning, values she strongly emphasized within her family.

Together, Elaine and Jack built a life centered on family, faith, hard work, and community. Over the years, Elaine supported her family through many moves across the western United States, adapting to each new place with steadiness and dedication.

In 1974, Elaine returned with her family to Jay Em, Wyoming, where she worked alongside her husband in agriculture. She later served as Postmaster of Jay Em from 1985 until 2010, becoming a trusted and familiar presence in the community. The post office was more than a workplace—it became a

gathering place where neighbors shared conversation, news, and often a cup of coffee.

Elaine was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church of Torrington, where both she and Jack were active members of the church choir. Elaine also served in many meaningful and quiet ways, including teaching Sunday school, keeping church meeting minutes, writing handwritten notes and cards, and helping with church gatherings. She was especially known for sending birthday cards and notes of care, making others feel remembered and valued.

Faith and music were important parts of Elaine's life. A renowned whistler, she also sang with her sisters - known as the Eaton Sisters - at community events in her younger years, carrying a lifelong love of music.

Elaine was preceded in death by her sisters Norma Brooks, Janice Howell, and Lorna Rinehart. She is survived by her husband Jack Pugsley; her sons Randall (Pamela) Pugsley and Michael (Aimee) Pugsley; her grandchildren; her brother Larry Eaton; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the many friends and community members for their care, support, and kindness.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 15. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (MT)

First Baptist Church
2241 Main St
Torrington, WY 82240
(307) 532-2760

Tribute Wall

BP

“ Dear family, thoughts and prayers going out to all! I got to know Elaine when I became Postmaster in Huntley then to Hawk Springs until they got rid of the Postmasters in the smaller offices. Really enjoyed getting to know her and fun at our meetings and conventions! She will be greatly missed. The LORD grant you peace until you meet again!

*A friend and fellow Postmaster
Barbara Peterson*

Barbara Peterson - May 14 at 11:44 PM

RL

“ My prayers, love, and gratitude to Jack, Elaine's children and family, and to the Goshen County community, and to First Baptist Church, all of whom she loved so deeply and served so completely. I treasured her notes and her calls reporting on the welfare of so many about her and the church..

Ronald Liesmann - May 02 at 05:37 PM

SS

“ Scott & Melina Sample purchased the Beautiful D reams for the family of Elaine Eaton Pugsley.



Scott & Melina Sample - April 28 at 09:12 PM

SS

“ Scott & Melina Sample planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elaine Eaton Pugsley.

Scott & Melina Sample - April 28 at 09:12 PM

MW

“ I am saddened to hear of the loss of lifelong friend, Elaine. Many memories of birthdays, school activities and class reunions and emails. Elaine and Jack were that special couple and friends. Love to you, Jack. Wishing you well in the coming days. Classmate 1954 Marion Harris Weickum-Rupert Idaho

Marion Harris Weickum - April 28 at 07:40 PM

SF

“ For many years my late husband, Bob, and I were fortunate to be friends with Jack and Elaine whenever we visited our small house in Jay Em. We enjoyed many fine meals prepared by Elaine and Jack and Bob never tired of visiting. Elaine was a special lady. Heaven has gained a beautiful angel.

Sally Flora, Culver, IN

Sally Kay Flora - April 28 at 11:50 AM

JH

“ My most sincere condolences for your loss, Jack and Randall. I always enjoyed working with Elaine and looked forward to meeting with Elaine and Jack at tax time.

Jim Hearne

Jim Hearne - April 28 at 09:54 AM

JH

“ My sincere condolences to Aunt Elaine’s immediate family. Honored to be part of the extended family and very sad to think about not speaking to her in person. Loved her “renowned” whistling while she made breakfast after sleepover times as a kid. Being involved in church choir and music events into young adulthood provides great memories. She prayed without ceasing this last year during my health issues. Love, love, ❤️. Trio plus top piano player in heaven complete. 🎵

Jason Howell - April 27 at 09:22 PM