



Aili Linnea Tornquist

September 1, 1946 - August 26, 2026

Spokane, Washington

Aili Linnea Tornquist died in Spokane on August 26, 2026. She was 79. Born in Spokane on September 1, 1946, with Finnish-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She tested pulp until numbers told the truth. A sample bottle rack by the sink was her garden; quality was a habit, not a slogan. Colleagues still mention a sample bottle rack by the sink.

She married Toivo in 1972. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Toivo died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember someone who swept the sidewalk past the property line when weather had been unfair. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Spokane, among streets she never needed to explain. The chair by the window still holds the shape of a habit.

Services

A memorial gathering in Spokane with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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