



Patricia Hope Zettleman

October 16, 1943 - September 13, 2026

Seattle, Washington

On September 13, 2026, Patricia Hope Zettleman died at home in Seattle. She was 82. She was born on October 16, 1943 in a Navajo family that measured love in finished chores. Early on, she decided that a paycheck and a handshake should weigh the same.

She kept barns that held livestock and after-fair weather with equal care. A fairgrounds stall chalk meant the building still belonged to everyone. Colleagues still mention a fairgrounds stall chalk.

She and Carl married in 1967 and raised two daughters and a son without needing an audience. After Carl's death in 2019, she held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember a shovel borrowed and returned sharper. Mornings were her favorite shift at home. She died in Seattle, on streets that already knew her pace. The work gloves still keep the shape of a grip.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. Her life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A quiet remembrance in Seattle. Those who wish may give to a neighborhood library, food pantry, or workers' aid fund instead of flowers.

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