

## **BETTY EVANS GRAYSON MEMORIAL AWARD**

Although she started her softball career as an outfielder, it would be a pitcher that would eventually lead Betty Evans Grayson into the ASA National Softball Hall of Fame.

She started as an outfielder in the Portland City League and by age 13 had pitched a little in grade school. Her manager, Erv Lind, however, felt Betty could become a great pitcher. With the help of Betty's father, Raymond Evans, and two former pitchers, Eddie Jossi and Archie "Windmill" Hamline, Betty pitched and pitched.

Betty played in the outfield for the Erv Lind Florists the summer of 1940. That would be her last year in the outfield. At the end of the season, Erv Lind told Betty, "From now on you're going to be throwing for us."

Named All-City in 1941 and 1942, Betty pitched for her first of six ASA National Championships in 1943.

In 1944, she hurled the Erv Lind Florists/Pomeroy Team to the ASA National Title in Women's Major Fastpitch. She was named Woman Athlete of the Year by the Oregon Sportswriters and Broadcasters Association.

She compiled a 456-99 record with 51 no-hitters and three perfect games.

Betty was inducted into the ASA National Softball Hall of Fame in 1959.

Betty passed away July 7, 1979, at age 53, a victim of breast cancer.

Oregon ASA, every two years, presents the Betty Evans Grayson Memorial Award to the outstanding 16& under female player that best exemplifies the work ethic, athleticism, academic achievement, and community involvement that so epitomizes Betty Evans Grayson's accomplishments during her career.