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Justice Vernon Robert Pearson of Gig Harbor passed away on February 4th, 2013. Vernon was born September 7, 1923 in Bantry, North Dakota to Reverend Claudius Pearson and his wife Golda. They had four children: Claude, Vernon, Richard and Ruth. He graduated Cando High School in 1941 and was awarded a scholarship to Jamestown College where he met the love of his life Jean Robertson. After Pearl Harbor, Vernon enlisted in the Navy and served on the U.S.S. Sylvania. He was introduced to the law as the ship's prosecuting attorney. After the war he returned to Jamestown College and was reunited with Jean. They were married that August, the happiest day of his life. He earned his law degree from the University of Michigan and joined his brother Claude's law firm in Tacoma and was in private practice 17 years. He was appointed to the Washington State Court of Appeals, Division II in 1969 and later the state Supreme Court in 1981 until 1989, serving at times as Chief Justice. Vernon and Jean had four children: Robert, Katharine, Stephen and David. Vernon enjoyed singing, golf, bridge, Husky football and barbecuing. His family will remember him for his kindness, generosity and especially his love for Jean. Together they built a legacy of love for their family and friends. A memorial service will be held at Mason United Methodist Church in Tacoma on February 16, 2013 at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers please donate to Jamestown College at [www.jc.edu](http://www.jc.edu).