

Ruth Elizabeth Augur Truman, 92, was raised in Portland and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1939. She is the mother of three and the great-grandmother of ten. She worked as secretary to the Dean of Engineering at the University of Portland, and in accounts receivable at Star Distributing for thirty-five years. She wants readers to know she is a rabid quilting fan, and treasures the handmade quilts made for her by her niece and daughter-in-law. Ruth participated in our workshop at [Rose Villa](#), continuing care retirement community in Milwaukie, Oregon.



What drew you to the Write Around Portland workshop?

Sociability, I think. It gets boring just sitting in your room. It's good to get out and do things whenever you can. You make all new friends, and you're sad when anything happens to them.

How did you feel about writing and sharing your work with others?

I'm mellow. I think that's the new language I haven't learned. I'm old enough to know it's okay [to share your feelings]. I always try to be "true man." Told that to my sons, too.

Would you recommend Write Around Portland to others? Why?

Oh, sure. Especially the longtime livers in Portland, who see all the changes. I've lived here since I was three years old, when my parents moved from Connecticut. I've been here at Rose Villa for many years, and my parents-in-law lived here before me, until they died. It's a wonderful place.

What was your favorite part about the workshop?

The fact that I actually did something interesting. I never considered I would be a writer of any kind. Now I feel like I made a huge mistake by not cashing in on this sooner! I could have made a million dollars and given it to my kids! *[laughs]* I could tell lots of stories about life in a nursing home.