



Barbara Adrienne McLaren

November 19, 1918 - September 10, 2015

Bobbie, born Barbara Adrienne Maddams, was the youngest of four children. Her first few years were spent at her fathers chicken ranch in Petaluma. At the age of 11 she and her family moved to Honolulu. She spent her high school and young adult years there. She had a story book romance with a young naval officer named Ken who she married and spent the rests of her life with. She lived as a Navy wife, moving every 18 months in various places including New England, Northern and Southern California, Hawaii and Guam. She was living with her parents in Honolulu during the attack on Pearl Harbor and the roof of her house was damaged by shrapnel from a near by bomb explosion. She had two sons who she raised by herself during WWII. After Ken retired in 1961, they moved to Corvallis Oregon where she lived for the next 50 years. Her hobbies included square dancing and bowling in her younger years, ceramics and growing Bonsai trees later. She was also involved with a life story club and a gourmet lunch group in Corvallis. She traveled extensively and particularly enjoyed cruises. Her travels included Scandinavia, France, Britain, New England, Alaska, the Caribbean, Mexico, the South Pacific, Japan and China. She lived a long and happy life and died at the age of 96. She was preceded in death by her two sisters and one brother, her husband Ken and her grandson Robbie. She is survived by her two sons, James and his wife Nona, Bruce and his wife Diane, two grandchildren Laurie and Scott, and two great grandchildren Sydney and Sienna.

Memorial services are to be held Saturday October 17 at 1:00 PM at McHenry

Funeral Home in Corvallis Oregon.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 17. 1:00 PM (PT)

McHenry Funeral Home
206 NW 5th St.
Corvallis, OR

Tribute Wall

DL

“ *Bobbie and I shared many wonderful times doing Bonsai together. We took classes together, went on Bonsai trips together and just enjoyed our friendship. She was an incredible artist and always inspired me. My deepest sympathy to all of her family. Diane Lund*



Diane Lund - October 15, 2015 at 01:11 PM

LK

Thank you Diane. Your words mean a great deal and Grandma was very, very fond of you. Is there any way that we could contact you?

lkmclaren - October 17, 2015 at 11:15 PM



“ When I first moved to Corvallis in the 1980s, Bobbie was still very active with the Willamette Ceramics Guild she helped found, along with Jean Rothacher, Bob Newton and Eleanor Rycraft. Bobbie created big sculptures and pots, inspired by the work of Betty Feves. Because she liked to travel, we often got to see slides of her travels around the world. Most memorable was a trip to Tibet (or Nepal?) and when their bus broke down, she had to carry her luggage at high altitude to the next village.

*Bobbie, and the other founding ceramic guild members, were truly inspiring to me as a young artist. My thoughts are with the family.
Sincerely, Cynthia Spencer-Hadlock*

Cynthia Spencer - October 12, 2015 at 05:33 PM

BM

“ To Bobbie's family... My deepest sympathy to all the family. She was a dear person who was my "little sister" when she moved to town. I invited her to an OSU Folk Club event to meet other faculty wives. We were good friends from then on. She liked to write and some time later joined my Write Your Life Story class at LBCC (held at the Senior Center). We all enjoyed her stories very much... stories of Hawaii, tales of the years she was a Navy wife in many places, her pleasure at her gardening and raising bonsai, and many other family events. I see her smile now and her bright eyes... she was lovely. I understood that she moved to be closer to family. She had a nice long life.... I know you miss her very much. I trust you have enjoyed her stories and treasure the memories. She was very fond of family.
Affectionately, Betty McCauley

Betty McCauley - October 12, 2015 at 05:02 PM

JC

“ Gracious and elegant are two words which come to mind when thinking about Bobbie. I was fortunate to know Bobbie through two different connections: first, she and Ken lived next door to my brother's family, and second, we both were potters. Bobbie had the most gorgeous garden. I remember visiting there with my mother and both of us swooning at the sight of the apricot/orange blooming azaleas. I have several plants growing in my yard which came from Bobbie's garden. Her house was filled with treasures from her journeys and her fine pottery collection which focused on Northwest potters including pieces from Frank Boyden and Betty Feves. The Willamette Ceramics Guild met at Bobbie's house one evening and she showed us the beautiful collection, each piece with its' own story.

In 2006, I helped clean out my brother's house after he moved and I visited Bobbie briefly. She was just about to sit down to lunch. Although the lunch was simple, the table was beautifully set and opposite her plate was a photo of Ken. So peaceful and meaningful. The last time I visited Bobbie was after her move to Stoneybrook Lodge. My mother and I were treated to photos and tales of her trip to China. I loved her laugh. Truly a remarkable woman.

Joyce Canan - October 11, 2015 at 11:04 AM



Joyce this is a lovely tribute. Her pottery collection was truly amazing.

Cynthia Spencer - October 16, 2015 at 10:39 PM

BG

“ What a lovely, gracious lady. We always enjoyed having her in our office. She always had a story to tell and was a great listener as well. She was so proud of her family and am sure she was happy to finally be closer to them. Randy and Barbara Glaser, Pacific Hearing Services.

Barbara Glaser - October 09, 2015 at 12:26 PM