



Barbara Jean Metzger

December 29, 1931 - December 15, 2013

Barbara Jean David Hearing Metzger, formerly of Corvallis and most recently of the Mennonite Village in Albany, passed away December 15 at the Mennonite Home.

Barbara was born to Harold and Delora (Hughson) David in Klamath Falls, Oregon. She and her mother moved to Corvallis in Barbara's early childhood, following her parents' divorce. Delora married Ernest Hearing in 1937 and Ernest adopted Barbara. Except for a brief period in Portland and the Coast Range area around Five Rivers during her early teen years, Barbara spent her youth in Corvallis. She was a proud member of the Corvallis High School Class of 1950 and maintained lifelong friendships with several of her classmates. Barbara graduated from Oregon State College in 1954 with a degree in Business Education. She was a member of Kappa Delta sorority. Barbara married Robert J. Metzger on April 28, 1956 in the First Methodist Church in Corvallis.

Barbara worked part-time or full-time for most of her adult life, always in occupations related to the legal field. She retired from the Weatherford Thompson Albany law firm, where she had worked as a legal secretary. She continued to work as a freelance legal secretary, substituting in several Corvallis and Albany-area law firms until 2008. Barbara was highly regarded for her ability to step into an office and provide quality secretarial service.

Family was central to Barbara's life. She provided loving care to her mother and to her Aunt Margaret. Her children were truly her pride and joy. She devoted many hours to assisting with their childhood activities. She was a constant source of support and encouragement. Although divorced from her husband of 34 years, Barbara considered it essential to maintain a loving family. She and Bob remained friends and enjoyed times together with their children and grandchildren. Barbara played a major role in Bob's care in his final days and was a rock of support to her children during that time.

Barbara was an active member of the Corvallis community. Over the years, she participated in OSU Folk Club, Kappa Delta alums, and Children's Farm Home activities, provided leadership for the Corvallis Community Calendar and the CHS Class of 1950 reunions, and served on the board for Adult Lifelong Learning. She had just begun tenure on the Mennonite Village Foundation Board when poor health forced her to resign. She was a devoted member of the Corvallis First United Methodist Church.

Barbara moved to the Mennonite Village in Albany in 2002. She became an active volunteer in the Village, and enjoyed travel and concert attendance through Village programs. Symptoms of Parkinsons Disease began to slow her down in 2010. Barbara moved to Quail Run Assisted-Living at the Village in July, 2011 and to the Mennonite Home in October, 2013.

Barbara is survived by daughter, Debra Lee, son-in-law Michael Lee and grandsons Matthew and Christopher Lee, all of Ames, Iowa, and son David Metzger, daughter-in-law Laura Metzger and grandsons Eric and Jeffrey Metzger of Salem, Oregon. Barbara was preceded in death by her parents and by her former husband, Robert Metzger.

Debbie and David wish to thank the many friends, extended family, Mennonite

Village and Samaritan Evergreen Hospice personnel who provided an amazingly strong network of support for Barbara to the very end.

A memorial gathering will take place from 9:00 am to Noon on Saturday, March 8th at McHenry Funeral Home in Corvallis.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation, 1555 SW 35th St., Corvallis, OR 97333.

Tribute Wall

SC

“ *Debbie, David, and families. I graduated from Corvallis High School in 1950, and when I last saw your mother 10 years ago. we remembered how all the girls in our class from that part of town would walk to school together each morning: Phyllis, Lorna, Carole Ann, Glee, your Mom, me, plus others. We'd wait outside each home until that girl came out, then move on to the next house. A nice group of friends.*

Sherrill Carlson

Sherrill Carlson - February 01, 2014 at 05:59 PM

CG

“ *I was sorry to just learn of the lose of your Mother. She was a sweet and special lady who had a wonderful soul. I have missed seeing her at the Children's Farm Home Archives, she was a great help, espically doing the computer part of preservation and organization.*

I will never forget her quiet smile.

*Fondly,
Cheri Galvin*

Cheri Galvin - December 29, 2013 at 01:42 PM

CR

“ *Debbie, David and Families,*

I first met your Mother while working at Ringo and Walton and I considered her a life-long friend.

Probably about 40 years ago, she gave me a handmade Christmas boy angel that I have hung on our Christmas tree in a special spot. Each time I placed the angel on our tree, I would think of your Mom.

This year that angel was again placed on our tree. I felt sadness when I read her obituary a week later.

Sending our sympathy to you and your families.

Cherie Reynolds

Cherie Reynolds - December 23, 2013 at 03:59 PM

LW

“ Dear Debbie and David,
Words can't express how sorry I was to see that your mother had passed away. She truly was such a lovely woman, whom I cared for a lot. She and I would spend a lot of time talking about our life experiences and realize, that, even though there was a great age difference she and I shared a lot of the same life experiences. I know that I was honored to be able to take care of your mom. She was special. She always liked saying that. Especially when it came to her children and her grand children. Whenever one of you would come by to visit she always had this glow about her while you were there and after you left. Just know she was immensely proud of you both, not only who you are as a person but how you treat people. As I sit here and type this too you both I have your mother's obituary in front of me. I'm sad that my friend is gone however I'm really relieved that her battle with Parkinson's is over. One of my favorite times with your mom was playing toss with the balloon it was so fun, they need too have a category in the Olympics! She and I would have gotten a Gold medal, OK in my mind we would have. I loved going and getting you mom those mochas however I liked it even better when she went with me and the young girls would talk to your mom and your mom just loved that. Please let me know when the service is. I will move Heaven and Earth to attend. My email is estherwarren2011@hotmail.com. .
God bless you both,
Laura L. Warren
541-979-1404

Laura Warren - December 22, 2013 at 10:10 PM

CW

“ *David, Debbie and families: Barbara was one of the first people we met when we moved to Oregon. Through the years whatever the occasion, we enjoyed our time with her and admired her ability and positive attitude. Whether it was Newcomers, Zonta or Academy for Lifelong Learning, she contributed greatly. She was proud of you and your accomplishments. Caroline and Bill Wilkins*

Caroline and Bill Wilkins - December 22, 2013 at 04:27 PM

SF

“ *Barb was a dear, sweet friend. We met sharing court reporting school at Lane Community College. Over the years lunches together at Two Rivers Market, Taylor Street Bakery, Quail Run dinning room and many other places allowed our friendship to flourish. My symbol of friendship and love for Barb was an espresso brownie from New Morning Bakery. She gave me this expression of friendship, a sentiment I share with her: "A friend is a very special part of all that's CHERISHED in the heart. I will miss Barb and she will always be in my heart. Fondly, Susan Fairchild*



Susan Fairchild - December 20, 2013 at 12:23 PM