



Maxine Ann Rainbolt

March 1, 2018 - March 14, 2018

Maxine Ann Rainbolt, 73, passed peacefully into God's loving arms on March 14, 2018 at her home in Corvallis. She died as she lived life – with courage, grace, love, and compassion for all.

Maxine was born March 1, 1945, the first child of Walter and Irene McPherson in Williston, North Dakota. Shortly after that, her family moved to Vanport, Oregon and then Vancouver, Washington.

She graduated from Providence Academy and attended the University of Portland, before transferring to Washington State University. She graduated in 1968 with a degree in Home Economics Extension.

On May 4, 1967, she met her future husband, Michael Rainbolt, a graduate student in engineering and Army lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. Upon graduation, they were married on June 15, 1968, in Vancouver, Washington.

Giving up a career of her own, they embarked on a military adventure of 22 years that took them from coast to coast, and border to border, and included six years in Europe. In 1986, they arrived in Corvallis, which would turn out to be their final military assignment. Corvallis and its people would change their lives forever.

Their time in the military was a great adventure. Along the way, their first child, Mary Ann, was born in Heidelberg, Germany, on December 13, 1971. They were blessed with only one separation tour when Mike was assigned to Korea from 1974 to 1975. He left a pregnant Maxine in Vancouver, close to her parents and sisters. On October 16, 1974 (October 17 in Korea), she gave birth to their second daughter, Melissa Ann.

While Mike was in the military, Maxine gave much of herself to serve the communities they lived in. In Heilbronn and Heidelberg, she taught young soldiers to help them gain their G.E.D. On the second tour, she worked with the children's choir and made friends with German citizens in the surrounding neighborhood.

In Tulsa, she took Mary and Melissa to visit nursing homes, bringing joy and comfort to the elderly. Some became lasting friends until the day they passed. Maxine worked as a professional photographer, bringing to life the families she worked with. At Fort Monroe, Virginia, she taught grade school at Saint Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic School.

Upon arrival in Corvallis, she began a 19-year career at Hoover Elementary School, working in many capacities including kindergarten aide, Learning Resource Center, and working with special needs children on an IEP. The children, teachers, and staff relied on her many skills and experience to guide the young boys and girls. Many former students, now adults with children of their own, remember Maxine and cherish the time spent with her. Medical conditions forced her to retire in 2006.

Maxine enjoyed camping, especially with her grandchildren. She loved gardening, feeling the soil, and nurturing her plants. She loved sewing clothes, cross-stitching, cooking, caring for six grandchildren, walks on the beach, and a succession of wonderful canine family members. In April 2014, a medical

condition left her paralyzed. She continued to provide comfort to others, calling regularly to the widows of World War II veterans.

Maxine was a member of Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Catholic Daughters of America, and the Military Officers Club of Corvallis. She enjoyed being a part of the "Hoover Retired Bunch" that gathered weekly.

Along with her husband Mike, they established ROTC scholarships for cadets and midshipmen at OSU. They helped others establish memorial scholarships, honoring veterans, and helping future military leaders with their education. These funds with the Benton Community Foundation were expanded to include needy veteran and military children and families. Together, they visited the summer camps and talked to children whose parents were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Maxine was a strong and faithful servant of God. She accepted her failing health as she had lived her life with grace and faith in Jesus her savior. She provided others with endless strength to meet their challenges with faith and grace. She never complained about the many mounting body failings that came her way. Her mind, spirit and faith remained strong, and many marveled that she always had a smile on her face, and a kind word of advice for others.

She was loved and cherished by many and will be remembered forever.

We want to thank all the "Angels" from God that have given us love, prayers, support, advice, and help through these challenging years. The doctors, nurses, CNAs, staff and housekeeping at Good Samaritan Hospital, Corvallis Clinic, Veterans Home, Home Health, and Hospice have been phenomenal in their care of Maxine, and compassion to both of us.

She was preceded in death by her parents Walter and Irene.

Maxine is survived by her husband, Mike; daughters, Mary (Jeff) Nizich, Melissa (Ken) Williams; six grandchildren, James, John, Samantha, and Joe Nizich, and Brandon and Katelyn Williams; two sisters, Marlene McPherson and Maureen (Bruce) Mandel.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Benton Community Foundation, P.O. Box 911, Corvallis, OR 97339, memo: "Michael and Maxine Rainbolt ROTC Scholarship" or memo: "ROTC/Veterans Support DAF" providing a broad range of support to needy Veterans and military families.

Funeral arrangements by McHenry Funeral Home, 206 NW 5th St. Corvallis, Oregon. A viewing and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will be at 6 p.m. on March 26 at McHenry Funeral Home. A funeral mass for Maxine will be held at 11 a.m. on March 27, 2018, at Saint Mary's Catholic Church, 501 NW 25th St., Corvallis. Interment will be at 1 p.m. on March 28, 2018 at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, 1101 NE 112th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98684.

Previous Events

Chapelette Vigil

MAR 26. 6:00 PM (PT)

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

Funeral Mass

MAR 27. 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
501 NW 25th St.
Corvallis, OR

Graveside Service

MAR 28. 1:00 PM (PT)

Evergreen Memorial Gardens
NE 112th Ave
Vancouver, WA