



Mabel Louise McNeil

October 1, 1914 - March 17, 2009

As a young child Mabel and her two brothers lived in a Catholic orphanage. Life was very difficult during the depression years. In 1940 as a young woman, she traveled west and settled in Oregon.

Mabel raised two children who succeeded admirably; her daughter is a nurse and her son a veterinarian.

She worked to support the family yet always had time to be the Blue Bird and Campfire leader for Heather, and attend the basketball and track meets for Kirk.

Once she could afford to buy a car in the early 1950's she took the children on trips to the beach, up the Columbia river to visit the historic sites, and to Disneyland.

Mabel truly was a superb seamstress. She took hand-me-down dresses from friends and remade them into original dresses for Heather and coordinating ones for her dolls. She could put together a costume for any event, and when her children needed one, she did!

No one ever went hungry in Mabel's house. She knew how to cook and relished holiday time when she could show off her talents. Her daughter-in-law is still trying to make fudge as good as Mabel's.

For many years she spent her vacations in the Hawaiian sunshine in January or February. Once retired she began her world travels; visiting Japan, China, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, England and Ireland. Her home was filled with many treasures from these overseas adventures.

In her later years she maintained a large vegetable garden each summer and continued her daily 1-2 mile walks, stopping to visit with neighborhood friends and always petting any dog she met on the way.

One of her wishes was to have a doll house of her own. Granting her wish, her son Kirk built her one for Christmas, complete with electricity. She spent many hours decorating it; making the curtains, quilts, and rugs. The doll house has been a conversation piece, enjoyed by many and cherished by Mom.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Mabel Louise McNeil*

January 28, 2023 at 02:51 PM



“ *I met Heather as a Military Nurse when we were both in the Reserves. She gave me a place to stay on reserve weekends. When Heather was promoted to Colonel, Mabel was so proud and invited us Heather's friends to her home to celebrate. She put together an elegant lunch and proudly showed us around her home and beautiful garden. As I have maintained my relationship with Heather, "Mom" as Heather called her was "the Best" according to Heather. When Heather bought new clothing from a fancy expensive store, Mom would remake those clothes to fit her perfectly and improve on the application of zippers, buttons etc. Thank you for welcoming me into your friendship. Pat McKeone*

Patricia McKeone - July 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I extend my sincerest condolences to Mabel's family over your loss of her. I have tons of extremely happy memories of times spent with her and Kirk and Heather while we were all growing up. She was a most superb, caring and fun "second mom." and outstanding friend to my mother!*

Bill Zavín - April 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ We're thinking of you all this morning, just before the service for Mabel. She was a big figure in your lives, and it's hard, we're sure, to imagine how different your lives will be. There is nothing quite like a mom.

Love,

Les and Jim

Leslie Neilson & Jim Grew - April 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Mabel,

For years you stood beside my own mom as a second and truly loved mom. After my mother died you stood as a mom and best friend for years. You cooked, did laundry, and stood as emergency backup for your grandchildren. You made my life better and you are missed.

love, Cathie

Cathie McNeil - April 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Bob and I send our condolences and love to Mabel's family - Heather, Kirk, Carrie, Brett, Joanie and Cathie. I have wonderful memories of Mabel's Mother/Daughter Valentine's Day luncheons. She will be remembered always and truly missed.

Love - Shirley

Bob and Shirley Grew - April 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ My Grandmother was a strong, independent and adventurous woman. She loved all creatures and took pride in what ever she created. I will always remember being well fed and well cared for when in her home. Oh the carrot cake and strawberry freezer jam, YUMMY! I will cherish the baby dolls and dress up clothes she made me and hope to pass them down to my own someday! I HOPE I CAN MAKE YOU PROUD!!!!

Love, Carrie

Carrie Ann McNeil Forbish - April 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Mabel is my Mother-in-Law. We had wonderful times together, roaming around the Willamette Valley in the summer, picking peaches & plums to preserve for winter, exploring interesting places to shop, etc. She was amazing - could knit, sew, cook anything with perfection, discuss any topic and she always had a ready laugh & smile. God Bless you, Mabel.

Joanie Livermore - March 27, 2009 at 12:00 AM