



Obituary

Born: Wednesday, June 7, 1939

Died: Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mary Joan Moore, 76, of Pendleton, Ore., passed away in her home surrounded by her family on November 19th after losing her battle with brain cancer.

Mary was born in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1939 and spent much of her youth following the road construction projects of her father. She graduated from Albuquerque High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1957 and went to work for Southwestern Bell. She met Gerald Moore and they were married on June 11, 1960, a marriage that lasted 40 years, until his death in 2001.

Service Summary

Recitation of the Rosary

7:00 PM Sun Nov 22, 2015

St. Mary's Catholic Church

800 SE Court Avenue
Pendleton, OR 97801

Mass of Christian Burial

1:00 PM Mon Nov 23, 2015

St. Mary's Catholic Church

800 SE Court Avenue
Pendleton, OR 97801

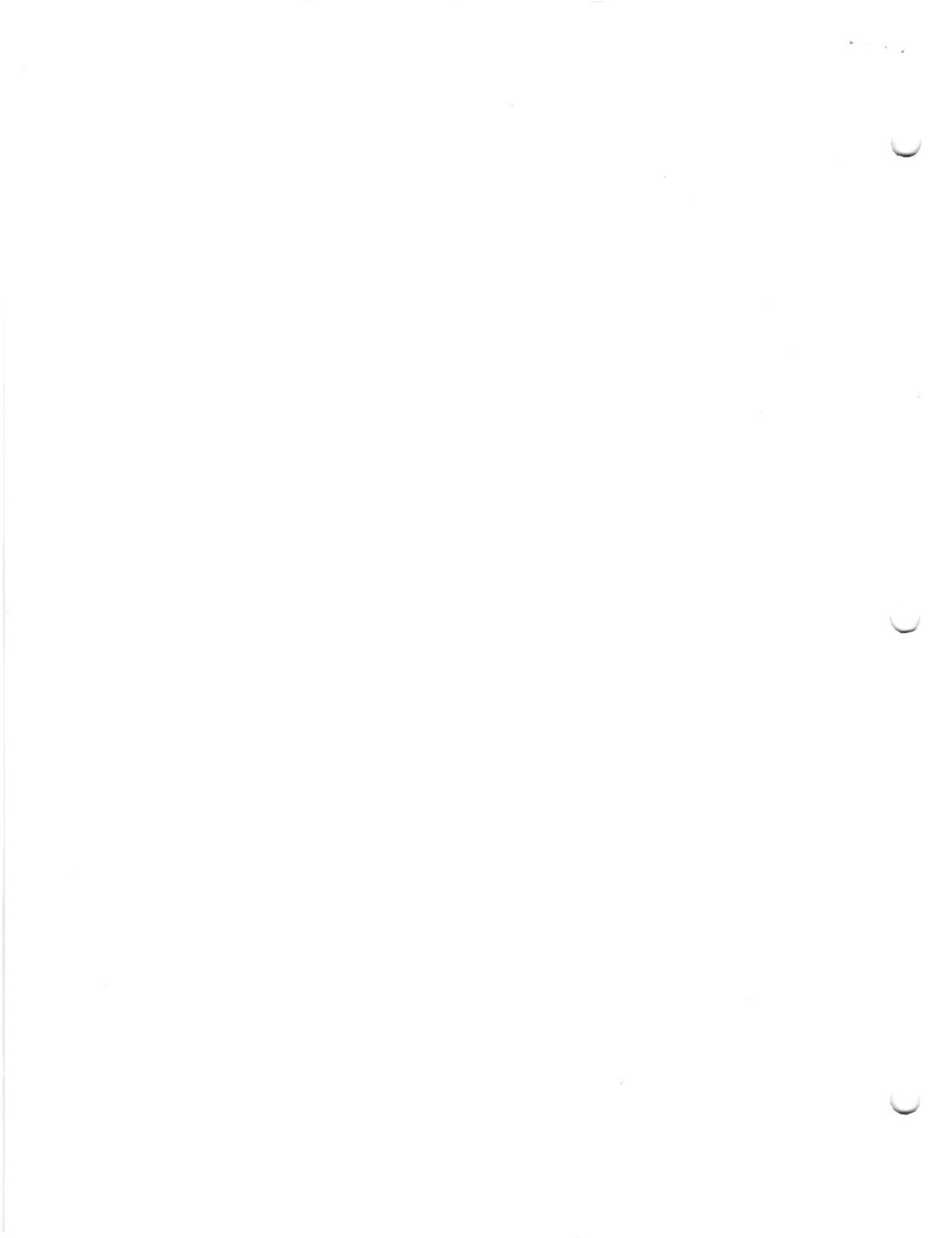
Mary and Jerry began their married life in Albuquerque, New Mexico. They spent time in Australia, Sacramento and Eugene before settling in Pendleton. Their family grew to six children and along with them came many stories and adventures. She instilled in them the importance of stability, routines and offering help to others.

Her faith in God was first in her life. She was an active member of St. Mary's church and many viewed her as a woman who led by example. She studied iconography, repaired statues, painted church murals, was a Eucharistic minister, attended Bible studies and led RCIA. She was a member of the parish council and up to date on liturgical practices and a member of the Schoenstatt Movement.

Her family was at the center of her life. As each grandchild and great-grandchild entered her life, she embraced their individuality and uniqueness and helped foster art and creative play. Her laughter echoed as she played imagination games, read books, drew pictures and played cards with them. Despite their numbers, she knew the interests of each child and was a supporter of their activities.

Mary had a generous heart and possessed a combination of empathy, generosity, selflessness and fun. She spent much of her time volunteering to help others. She was instrumental in helping start the St. Mary's Outreach as a way to fill a need in the community and served actively for many years organizing Thanksgiving baskets and Christmas gifts during those seasons. She was a volunteer for the Salvation Army and most recently provided lunches on Saturdays. She was always giving of herself and expected nothing in return.

Mary was a creative soul and her hands were never idle. The many seasons took her through sewing, embroidery, knitting, clay, carving and the most lasting of all were her water colors. She attended classes and studied on her own. Her passion for art and teaching enabled her to start a business,



Simply Art, where she taught art lessons for over 10 years and nurtured many students of all ages.

Her friends were numerous and she cherished those friendships by hosting creative birthday parties, participating in her bunko group, religious celebrations, trips to the beach, museums and garden tours. She enjoyed her many trips across the U.S. every year as well as her travels to the Holy Land, The island of Molokai and other places of religious significance.

She had a flair for language. She was self taught, knowledgeable and well read. She would become animated when engaged in any topic or debate.

Mary had a lifelong interest in plants and was a member of the Dirt Dabblers. She could make anything grow and flowers and yard ornaments were in abundance at her home. She could be often seen wearing a big floppy hat and working away in her garden.

In the year of her illness, she faced her diagnosis with determination and her hope never wavered. She was the eternal optimist and had a sunny outlook on life and lived her life to the fullest. She set about working through a "bucket list," and was able to accomplish most things on that list. Her home continued to be a place where her friends and family gathered. Laughter and smiles were abundant and many blessings were given as she continued to nurture those around her.

Mary is survived by her children, Mark (Renee) Moore of Pendleton, Matt (Tana) Moore of Pendleton, Helen (Patrick) Doherty of Pilot Rock, Mary Patricia Moore of Hermiston, Chris (Karen) Moore of Pendleton and Jean (Brett) Thomas of Milton-Freewater; 21 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law Mary (Bob) Johnson of Albuquerque, New Mexico; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Bernice Brown; her husband Gerald Francis Moore; and her brother James Brown.

Recitation of the holy rosary will be held on Sunday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church with viewing until 8:30 p.m. A mass of Christian burial will be held at 1:00 p.m. on November 23rd at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Interment to follow at Olney Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider honoring Mary with a remembrance to the St. Mary's Church handicapped ramp project.

