

## Obituaries

### Arden Midge Renton

Arden Midge Renton, 88, of Grants Pass, died on May 27, 2023. Born on June 11, 1934, in Oakland, California, to Adolph and Mildred Eichenbaum, Midge (as she was known as) grew up in San Francisco, graduating from Lincoln High School in 1952 before matriculating to University of California, Berkeley, where she graduated in 1956 with a degree in Elementary Education and met her future husband, Bill Renton.

Bill and Midge were married in January 1957 and initially settled in Los Angeles before moving back to the Bay Area, settling in Belmont and rearing three sons, David, Daniel, and Dennis. Because of work, Bill was transferred and the family moved to Grants Pass in 1966 to the house on Midland, where Midge resided in the same house until the last few months prior to her death.

As a lifelong educator, Midge began substitute teaching in the Grants Pass and Josephine County (now Three Rivers) school districts in 1971, before becoming a full-time teacher at Manzanita Elementary in 1974. After earning her master's degree in Education Administration from the University of Oregon, Midge moved on to become an elementary school principal, first at Merlin Elementary, then Fort Vannoy Elementary, where she remained until her retirement in 1996.

Upon her retirement, Midge and Bill remained active in the community over the next 20+ years and traveled extensively all over the United States and the world. Memberships include Rotary (past president), Rogue Community College Board of Education (past president), Four Way Community Foundation, AAUW, PEO, plus numerous other organizations.

Amongst all of her volunteer work with her membership organizations, Midge was most proud of her work with Rogue Community College and the Rogue Community College Foundation. As a founding RCC Board member, the college held as special place in her heart during her 40+ years of association. Some have suggested there would not be a Rogue Community College without Midge being involved.

During her retirement years, Midge continued working in education, mentoring high school students at North Valley about continuing on to college and choosing the best path, often with option of attending community college.

Her hobbies included gardening, cooking, traveling, reading, Rogue "River Woman", skiing, wine tasting, volunteering/community involvement, Women's Investment Group (WIGS), schnauzer dogs, crossword puzzles, and Oregon Duck football.

Midge is survived by her children, David A. Renton (married to Lisa Renton) of Grants Pass, Oregon, Daniel A. Renton (partnered to Laura Pettit) of Heisson, Washington, Dennis A. Renton (married to Jennifer Renton) of Wyoming, Michigan; grandchildren William Renton and Patrick Renton (David), Phillip Renton and Hannah Renton (Daniel), Emily Santoni and Rebecca Renton (Dennis). She was preceded in death by William L. Renton in April 2016 (married 59 years).

A remembrance gathering will be at 12 noon Sunday, June 25, 2023, at the Rogue Community College Auditorium.

Please consider making a memorial contribution to the Rogue Community College Foundation.



*To place an obituary, please call Cassie Clarke at 541-474-3714 or email at [obits@thedailycourier.com](mailto:obits@thedailycourier.com).*

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