



Mary Ann McCammon

October 14, 1942 - November 25, 2022

Mary Ann McCammon, 80, of Sherwood, Oregon passed away on November 25, 2022, peacefully at home surrounded by family. Mary Ann was born October 14, 1942, in Kansas City, Missouri.

For nearly 60 years Mary Ann worked tirelessly to improve the health and welfare of, and services to, women and girls affected by poverty, pregnancy, abuse, and disability through her practice, teaching, and research. Mary Ann began her educational journey at the University of Missouri, School of Nursing (1964) and she completed her PhD in Nursing at the University of California at San Francisco (1979). She was a Professor Emerita at Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing in Portland, Oregon, where she continued her research focusing on improving the health of marginalized women.

In addition to Mary Ann's passion for women's health, she loved to garden, hike, practice yoga, bicycle, travel (visiting all 7 continents), cook for family and friends, and quilt. She turned her love of quilting into helping others: teaching quilting skills to women in custody at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Oregon, to women in a rural Mexican fishing village, and in 2015 to women in Kenya. She established Quilts for Empowerment in 2017 for the expansion of her work in Kenya.

Mary Ann is preceded in death by her parents, Ethel and Herman Huesgen; her son, Brad Curry; her daughter Megan Curry. Survivors include her loving husband, Steve McCammon; brother Bob (Paula) Huesgen; sons-in-law Ryan (Dana) McCammon and Taylor (Joy) McCammon; nephews Bobbo (Tracy) Byrnes and Chad (Debbie) Huesgen; nieces Sarah Huesgen and Beth Huesgen; two grandnieces and one grandnephew.

Mary Ann's family and loved ones are planning a celebration of life to be held in the spring, her favorite time of year. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Quilts for Empowerment at <https://www.quiltsforempowerment.org/>

Tribute Wall

BN

“ I met Mary Ann at the quilt show in Sisters, Oregon--a chance encounter that changed my life. She brought Norah to our home and together we hatched the idea of the women in Kenya sewing conference bags for the World Forum Foundation. Quilts for Empowerment and the World Forum were connected through this project and it was wonderful. When I talked with Mary Ann in Orlando in May, I had no idea she was ill. Her light and her enthusiasm, her passion for people, her great heart. How blessed that she came into my life. Bonnie Neugebauer

Bonnie Neugebauer - December 16, 2022 at 02:30 PM

NF

“ Steve's news of Mary Ann's illness which quickly took its toll stirred up many good memories -- from meeting Mary Ann at a conference with the Nursing Network on Violence Against Women International, developing a warm friendship as we appreciated one another's work and enjoyed spending time together at those meetings around the country. Mary Ann's invitation to get together when her cycling group came to Maine was a life-changer for me -- it was there that I met my husband, Marc - Mary Ann gets full credit for that. I am including this photo of Mary Ann from our Nova Scotia cycling trip because of her laugh! The other photo is of the magnificent quilt that she made for our wedding. I smile at the thought of the many people around the world who are warm and cozy beneath a quilt made by Mary Ann or by the many quiltmakers she nurtured. To Steve: Marc and I will always be grateful for Mary Ann and for you -- what marvelous years you had together!



Nancy Fishwick - December 11, 2022 at 03:43 PM



“ Despite being in a different School and profession, MaryAnn volunteered to serve as my primary mentor when I first joined the faculty at OHSU. She not only helped me get my first NIH grant, but also taught me how to build strong collaborative research networks and navigate academia. Over twenty years later, I am still using many of the skills she helped me gain. I can attest that her research has had a huge impact on the lives of women all over the world, especially women with disabilities and survivors of intimate partner violence. And of course, it was wonderful to watch her advocacy and generosity continue and grow throughout her retirement. I will always think of her with gratitude.

Christina Nicolaidis - December 07, 2022 at 08:43 PM

AB

Mary Ann made a huge impression on me when she joined the “ Africa Connection Social Justice Group at First Unitarian Church. Her founding of a non profit in Kenya, “ Quilts For Empowerment”, enabled women recovering from fistula surgeries to learn work skills, start small businesses and become self sufficient. Her tireless work with sexually abused young girls through this program provided youngsters with residential care, safety, healthcare, an education, and trauma counseling. She taught women incarcerated at Coffee Creek Correctional institution how to quilt and enthusiastically embraced a range of volunteer projects during her retirement, both in Kenya, the USA and Mexico. Her energy and work ethic were inspirational. I will miss meeting with her each month and enjoying her sense of humor and determination to help others. She really left a huge positive legacy in this world and I can't begin to imagine how hard this loss is for all she helped in Kenya. My heart goes out to Steve and her family at this sad time of sudden loss.

Ann Bennett - December 09, 2022 at 02:32 AM

KM

“ We were in graduate school together. Mary Ann was destined to make a huge impact in the lives of women, and she did just that—touching and improving so many lives. Go with the goddess, Mary Ann.

Katharyn May - December 07, 2022 at 11:13 AM

CW

“ I've known Mary Ann for more than 74 years, since we were first-graders in Mrs. Redford's class at Englewood School. Then we attended high school together at North Kansas City High School. Later, we both attended and graduated from the University of Missouri in 1964, before she headed to California for grad school.. In 2012 my wife and I had the pleasure of visiting Mary Ann Steve at their lovely home in Western Oregon. She was a most kind and warm person, truly a credit to humanity.

Chris West - December 06, 2022 at 05:45 PM

NO

“ *MaryAnn MaCcamon, I knew you in 2015, since then you have been more than a friend, you became a mum to me, you dedicated your all to help the women and girls in Luanda, Kenya, to be empowered economically, psychosocially, educationally and having a safe home. We always looked forward to enjoying time with you every April, I just cannot believe I will never see you again come April, they say time heals bit time has never had a mum and a friend. You are forever in our hearts mum and my prayer is that your legacy carries on. Condenses to dad Steve and to us all. RIP MAMA.*



Norah Otondo - December 06, 2022 at 04:17 PM

MC

“ *I met Mary Ann once in Mexico when she and my sister in law began an introductory class in quilting for native women. I remember Mary Ann as funny, optimistic, energetic, caring and eager to make a positive difference in people's lives where possible. Her quilting project in Africa is testimony to her dedication and deserves strong continuing support from her friends*
Sincerely,
Martha Cussler
Rhode Island

Martha Cussler - December 06, 2022 at 11:05 AM