

OBITUARIES

Katherine 'Kate' Merrill

Astoria

Sept. 18, 1962 — May 22, 2022

Katherine "Kate" Merrill, M.D., died at the age of 59, succumbing to glioblastoma multiforme, an aggressive and incurable form of brain cancer. She died on May 22, at her home in Astoria. Her death was attended by her sister, Karen, mother, Carole, father, James, good friend, Denise Lilley, and her adoring husband, Rodney. Rodney was primary caregiver through the last stages of her illness.

Katherine was born on Sept. 18, 1962, in Castro Valley, California, to Carole and James Hockenbarger. She graduated from Meridian High in Meridian, Idaho. Katherine was called "Kathy" until she returned from an exchange program in Germany. Upon her return, Katherine not only spoke excellent German, but adopted the name "Kate" in place of Kathy, and used Katherine only on official documents.

People are surprised to hear that Kate did not believe she was smart enough for college! Not only did she do well, she loved it, and couldn't get enough! Kate's greatest disappointment during her college career is that she earned a B, and ruined her 4.0 GPA.

She graduated from Ventura College with an associate's degree, and continued at University of California, Santa Barbara, taking a bachelor's degree in physical anthropology. She applied to eight medical schools, and was accepted by five. Since all of them were fine schools, she decided to pick the one that treated her the most humanely during the interview process.

Kate graduated from Medical College of Wisconsin in 1994 with a doctor of medicine degree. She was elected a member of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

In 1994, she and her husband, Rodney, moved to Renton, Washington, so she could complete an accredited University of Washington-affiliated family practice residency program at Valley Medical Center. She completed her residency in 1997.

She accepted a position at PeaceHealth Medical Clinic, where she continued working until PeaceHealth closed its doors. Although she was offered the opportunity to relocate, Kate and Rodney did not want to leave Astoria. Neither did PeaceHealth colleague Dr. Angela Nairn and her husband, Kent.

After a few meetings together, the husbands declared their support for Kate and Angela to go into private practice together. By the next week, with the help of PeaceHealth, Columbia Memorial Hospital, friends and family, Pacific Family Medicine LLC was up and running.

What started out as an attempt to maintain a weight loss of 65 pounds became a passion for marathon running that did not end until her diagnosis and brain surgery. First it was half-marathons (13.1 miles). Then marathons (26.2 miles). Then 50K (30 miles) and 100K (60 miles). Then the 100-mile ultramarathon.

She was not a fast runner. Her 100-mile ultramarathons took anywhere from 26 hours to 30 hours to run. Elite runners can do it in half the time. She had a sea turtle tattooed on her thigh as her totem because, in her words, "I can't go fast, but I can go far!"

She could never win the marathon. She knew that. But she also knew that every time she had no more to give, and still took another step, every time she crossed the finish line despite wanting to give up, she won.

Kate surrendered her hospital privileges, her medical license and her driver's license before it was required of her. Each surrender broke her heart, but she was a woman of ethics and principles. She was a brilliant woman, admired by colleagues and adored by patients — some of whom drove 1½ hours to see her!

Several patients report that this humble family practitioner saved their lives by not settling for the easy answer, by digging deeper and sending them to a specialist to investigate her suspicions.

Kate's husband feels privileged to have been married to someone he not only loved, but admired, for every day of 40 years. He regrets only that they were not more years, that such a highly motivated, health-conscious athlete's life was cut short by cancer.

A memorial remembrance for Kate is scheduled for Sept. 18, which would have been Kate's 60th birthday. It will be at The Loft at the Red Building in Astoria. Kate loved Hawaii, and all things Hawaiian. So, there will be Hawaiian music, Hawaiian snacks, and her favorite Hawaiian cocktails will be served.

Erin McGregor will coordinate the event and Heidi Patee, a very close friend of Kate's, will officiate. Rodney will look on in amazement.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate Kate's life and her contributions. If you can offer a eulogy, that would be wonderful. If you aren't up to speaking, a written version can be read by our emcee.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Hawaii Land Trust in Hawaii, Save the Chimps in Fort Pierce, Florida, or Clatsop Animal Assistance in Warrenton. Kate would be pleased with any of these choices.



Katherine Merrill, M.D.

Janice LaPlace McCall

Astoria

Feb. 20, 1928 — June 30, 2022

A good woman may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature.

Janice LaPlace McCall may never have gone on stage, but she played a starring role all her life: Best Daughter, Outstanding Sister, Premier Wife of 73-plus Years, Cherished Friend, Stellar Mother, Fabulous Grandmother and Devoted Great-grandmother.

She was always Donna Reed, June Cleaver and Mary Tyler Moore all rolled into one, with a magic sprinkle of Mary Poppins on top.

Jan loved traveling with her handsome husband, Ed. She adored shopping, live theater, good books, the latest magazines, pretty clothes, dining out (she always said her ideal kitchen would have

only vending machines) and watching Masterpiece Theater on TV with a brisk cup of tea and something sweet on the side.

Jan raised five children, cared for her husband, kept a beautiful home and still had energy to volunteer as a Girl Scout leader, make costumes and move scenery for the Maddox Dance Studio, babysit and prepare lunches for the YMCA or run a food booth at the 4-H Fair.

Her loving, generous, cheerful spirit will be greatly missed by her husband and surviving children, Mike, Liz, Doug and John.

"You will always have a piece of earth to stand on, or you will be given wings to fly."



Janice McCall

Donna Louise (Adams) Jagger

Warrenton

July 23, 1946 — July 6, 2022

Donna Louise (Adams) Jagger was a wife, mother, homemaker, nail technician instructor and pastor's wife. But most all, she was a servant of Jesus Christ, her Lord and savior.

Donna was born on July 23, 1946, in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Loral and Gale (Wright) Adams. She passed away on July 6, 2022, at the family home in Warrenton.

Donna attended school in Colorado Springs, graduating from Wasson High School in 1964.

Donna married Kenneth Jagger on Dec. 10, 1967, in Colorado Springs, and in March 1968 they began their journey of pastoring that would span over 50 years. She was a perfect pastor's wife. Often Ken was told that they put up with him to keep her.

Her love for children played out in being a foster mother to over 30 children for more than 25 years.

Donna became a nail technician instructor at Astoria Beauty College until she had to retire because of her health.

She enjoyed counted cross stitch, reading, doing puzzles and watching Bill Gaither gospel music videos. Donna loved her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and members of her extended family very dearly.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Loral and Gale Adams; brothers, Paul and Ronald Adams; sister and brother-in-law, Sharon and Jack Ward; sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Roger Price; and niece, Rhonda Scrafield.

Donna is survived by her husband of almost 55 years, Kenneth, of Warrenton; son, Brent (Afton), of Fruita, Colorado; son, Kevin, of Warrenton; son, Scott (Lisa), of Astoria; daughter, Melissa, of Alburnett, Iowa; daughter, Sheana (Pat), of Westport, Washington.

She is also survived by her grandchildren, Andrew Jagger, Destini (Tanner) Schafer, Aden Jagger, Jordan Hamilton, Tessa Jagger, Teagan Jagger, Tayson Jagger, Raina Jagger, Nathan Jagger, Makyla Grimmett, Aurora Grimmett, Boogie Shinabery and Zeeva Gagnon; three great-grandchildren, Kynson Jagger, Kindle Jagger and Finnley Schafer; sister, Yvonne (Ken) Garrett, of Colorado Springs; sister-in-law, Helen Adams (wife of the late Paul Adams); sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Linda and Ron Geist; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She will be greatly missed by all until we see her again in heaven.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday at Hilltop Church, 725 Niagara Ave.



Donna Jagger

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OBITUARY POLICY
 The Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.
 Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day before publication.
 Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at DailyAstorian.com/obituaries, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria.
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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
69 56	67 53	69 55	70 58	68 56	67 55	68 56
Breezy	Breezy in the p.m.	Partly sunny	Periods of sun	Considerable clouds	Variable cloudiness	Partly sunny

ALMANAC
 Astoria through Sunday
Temperatures
 High/low 72/53
 Normal high/low 67/54
 Record high 93 in 1908
 Record low 44 in 1967
Precipitation
 Sunday 0.00"
 Month to date 0.27"
 Normal month to date 0.35"
 Year to date 42.84"
 Normal year to date 37.52"

UNDER THE SKY
Tonight's Sky: Delphinus, the dolphin, is in the east at nightfall and glides high overhead during the night.
 Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON
 Sunrise today 5:36 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 9:06 p.m.
 Moonrise today 8:53 p.m.
 Moonset today 3:51 a.m.

TODAY'S TIDES
Astoria / Port Docks
 Time High (ft.) Time Low (ft.)
 1:39 p.m. 6.6 7:14 a.m. -1.5
 none 6:51 p.m. 2.9
Cape Disappointment
 1:17 p.m. 6.6 6:17 a.m. -1.8
 none 5:55 p.m. 3.1
Hammond
 1:28 p.m. 6.7 6:39 a.m. -2.0
 none 6:22 p.m. 2.8
Warrenton
 1:34 p.m. 6.9 6:58 a.m. -1.4
 none 6:35 p.m. 3.0
Knappa
 12:19 a.m. 9.3 8:15 a.m. -1.3
 2:16 p.m. 6.8 7:52 p.m. 2.5
Depoe Bay
 12:32 p.m. 6.6 5:48 a.m. -2.3
 11:26 p.m. 9.6 5:25 p.m. 3.1

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Wed.
Atlanta	89/74/t	89/73/t
Boston	87/70/pc	87/69/pc
Chicago	84/66/pc	78/62/pc
Dallas	104/80/s	103/79/pc
Denver	91/62/t	97/66/pc
Honolulu	86/75/c	88/76/r
Houston	100/79/t	98/77/t
Los Angeles	80/61/pc	81/62/pc
Miami	92/81/t	92/80/t
New York City	91/72/t	90/73/s
Phoenix	112/90/pc	112/92/c
San Francisco	72/59/pc	69/57/pc
Wash., DC	92/73/s	90/74/pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Wed.
Baker City	96/58/s	87/53/t
Brookings	69/56/pc	66/54/s
Ilwaco	67/57/c	67/57/pc
Newberg	91/56/s	82/55/s
Newport	65/53/pc	63/52/s
North Bend	67/56/pc	66/55/pc
Roseburg	91/59/s	84/56/s
Seaside	70/56/c	67/55/pc
Springfield	92/56/s	83/55/s
Vancouver	89/58/s	80/57/s