

## **Margie Haisman History**

I was born in Bremerton, Washington on August 29, 1947, and grew up in a house my parents built in the 1930's in Olalla, Washington. I spent most of my childhood outdoors on our ten acres with a creek, pond, huge vegetable and flower gardens, chickens for fresh eggs, and lots of woods to explore.

I attended Kitsap County public schools through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and then went to Peninsula High School in Gig Harbor from 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. All through school I enjoyed all sports. I played on baseball and basketball teams all four years of high school.

Upon graduation from high school, I attended Bates Vocational School in Tacoma, Washington for a year in secretarial studies. A brief few weeks working at Weyerhaeuser was rather boring, so I didn't accept a job there. Instead, I accepted a job as a Stenographer Clerk in the Social Work Department at Western State Hospital. I actually used my shorthand almost every day and transcribed my notes on an IBM selectric typewriter with no correction tape!

Throughout my schooling, the legal profession interested me. I took a 40 hour night class for legal secretary work. Shortly after, I took a legal secretary position with attorney firm Lee, Krilich, Lowery & Thompson in Tacoma. After three years, I took a legal secretary position with the Attorney General's Office in Olympia, WA. I promoted to administrative assistant. Then proceeded to get my paralegal degree by attending night college courses. The last 12 years of my career were in the Corrections and Labor and Industries Division of the Attorney General's Office as a paralegal. Finally, after 30 years, I retired from the State in 1999.

During my last few months at the State, I studied real estate law and got my real estate license. For 24 years I was a real estate broker with the office of Van Dorm Realty Inc in Olympia. I specialized in residential real estate and saw many interesting homes and met many wonderful people along the way.

Over the years I took up kayaking, water skiing, snow skiing, and goif. Las Vegas and the local casinos are fun, but not very profitable. My husband and I have taken trips to many southwest national parks. We have done 15 cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean, and Europe. Occasionally, I fly to Arizona to see my nieces. Now we stay close to our home in East Olympia and our cabin on acreage in Tenino. That keeps us plenty busy.

I thought I was invincible until my heart attack on April 1, 2025. I have changed to a Mediterranean diet and go to Thrive to exercise and lift weights several times a week. Now that the weather is warming up, our yard keeps me busy with flowers and a vegetable garden. My bicycle remains a dusty fixture on my porch. That could be my final undoing if I fall. The golf course is beckoning me.

I regularly attend Mended Hearts meetings. There is a wealth of information to be had for heart survivors. The guest presenters at the meetings were excellent. Also, Walk with the Doc the last Saturday of every month at Rainier Park is great.

In 1982 I took a seven week vacation and took a trip around the world. Spent time in Copenhagen, Germany, Austria and Italy with relatives. My dad immigrated here from Austria in 1923. For the first time, I met my uncle, aunt, and numerous first and second cousins. The highlight of my life was a visit to my dad's home in the south Tyrolian Alps located near Trento, Italy. I flew out of Rome to visit my sister in Japan. Then flew to Hawaii for a

few days before returning to Seattle.

**I am trying to keep moving and be a healthier me.**