



## Jane and William Corcoran

June 17, 1922

Jane Woodcock Corcoran

June 17, 1922 – May 21, 2020

William Joseph Corcoran

March 13, 1921 - June 10, 2020

Jane Corcoran went home to be with Jesus on May 21, 2020, at the age of 97. Her husband, Bill Corcoran, joined her on June 10, 2020. He was 99.

Emma Jane Woodcock was born on June 17, 1922, in Corvallis, Oregon to Milton Edwin and Mary (Baird) Woodcock. She was a fourth generation Oregonian. Her great grandparents, Martin and Amanda (White) Woodcock, and their 4 year old son, Milton Sherman Woodcock, Jane's grandfather, traveled the Oregon Trail in 1853 to settle in the Willamette Valley. A native New Yorker, William Joseph Corcoran, was born to John L. and Augusta (Schultz) Corcoran in Richmond Hill, Queens, on March 13, 1921.

Raised in Corvallis, Jane attended Corvallis High School and Oregon State College where she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. During her junior year she transferred to Stanford University and graduated with an A.B. in Social Sciences, class of 1944. Bill was a 1941 graduate of Manhattan

College with a B.S. in Physical Education.

From May 1942 to February 1946, Bill served as a Chief Petty Officer, Chief Specialist (A) in the U.S. Navy with responsibility for training new recruits and providing physical rehabilitation activities. In January 1945, he headed west to take up his post at the Naval Hospital at Camp Adair outside of Corvallis. Shortly after arriving, Bill met Jane at the USO where she was working at the snack bar. They were married six months later on August 23, 1945. It was a love story that would last 75 years.

Settling in Corvallis, Bill (then known as Corky) was employed for fifteen years in the service and sales departments at M.E. Woodcock and Sons, the local Buick-Cadillac dealership. Knowing he wanted to be a school teacher, Bill enrolled at OSU and earned his B.S. in Elementary Education in 1962 and his Masters in 1965. He taught in the Corvallis School District from 1962-1983 at Harding Elementary (where Jane attended grade school) and Highland View Middle School. Jane was a homemaker for many years and focused on raising their four children with Bill. She was later employed at Cooperative Managers Association and Wallace Wholesale Foods. Jane volunteered with Meals on Wheels and later became the site manager of the Elderly Nutrition Program at the Senior Center.

Bill and Jane shared a love of sports. Bill was an avid roadrunner, keeping a log of the miles he ran daily and completing three marathons in his lifetime. He worked as a statistician for OSU football as well as a track official for the Beavers. That led to opportunities officiating track meets at Corvallis High School, the NCAA's, the Portland Indoor, and twice at the Olympic Trials in Eugene. Strong supporters of Beaver Nation, Bill and Jane enjoyed basketball and gymnastics at Gill Coliseum. Bill was a great fan of Paul Valenti, and they always tuned in to hear Mike Parker call the Beaver baseball games.

Retirement allowed Bill and Jane to spend even more time together with those they loved most: their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. They cherished making family memories together over the years which involved holiday and birthday gatherings, trips to the beach or Central Oregon, and traveling to cheer on their grandchildren at football, basketball, and baseball games or track meets.

Bill was the first one to greet you with a big hug. He made you feel like you were the most important person in the room and always made you feel special. He could make you laugh, and bring a smile to your face because you knew he had a soft spot in his heart for you. Bill loved to sing and would serenade Jane or belt out a tune for others to enjoy.

Jane was the detail person, wanting to know what was going on in everyone's lives, asking questions, remembering everything, and checking in to see how things were going. She cared deeply for each individual in her family, encouraging and supporting them always. She lived life with a positive outlook and a sense of humor. Jane was a lifelong reader, and for years her daily routine would start with reading her Bible and end by perusing the Corvallis G-T.

Family meant everything to the Corcorans, as did their faith in Jesus Christ. Their lives reflected the love of Christ and they wanted others to know Jesus too. Jane and Bill were members of Lifespring Foursquare Church and the Gideon's International, serving in various capacities to share the Good News of the gospel.

Jane was an avid supporter of the Benton County Historical Society and the new Corvallis Museum. In 2017, she turned the first shovel of dirt at the ground breaking. For 20 years, Jane constantly wondered if she would live

long enough to see it completed. On October 20, 2019, she stepped inside. Jane was proud of her family roots and the Woodcock legacy in the Corvallis community.

Bill left his mark in Corvallis as a school teacher and coach, touching the lives of young people, inspiring them in the classroom, as well as on the field. He always enjoyed letters and visits from his former students and would happily greet them in a store or at a ballgame. In 2017, as the oldest living teacher, he was honored by the Corvallis School District for his contribution to public education.

They are survived by their daughters, Susan Hayes, Joan Corcoran, and Janet Wright (Will) and a son, Bob Corcoran (Colleen); five grandchildren, Casey Corcoran, Chris Corcoran (Mallory), Todd Wright (Megan Sacia), Kerry Wright, and Scott Wright; three great-grandchildren, Audrey, Charles, and Scarlett Corcoran. Jane is survived by her sister, Cynthia Lyon, and was predeceased by her parents and three brothers, Bill, Baird, and Ed. Bill was predeceased by his parents and four sisters, Catherine, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Muriel. Bill and Jane loved and admired their son-in-law, Jonathan Hayes, and their granddaughter-in-law, Kaycee Anseth, who preceeded them in death this year.

The family wishes to thank the staff and caregivers at Stoneybrook Assisted Living and the team at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice for the care and devotion to our parents in their final months.

A celebration of life for Bill and Jane will be announced at a later date. Gifts in their memory can be made to The Gideon's International Faith Fund at [www.gideons.org](http://www.gideons.org) or Love, Inc. of Benton County at [www.yourloveinc.org](http://www.yourloveinc.org). Updates about the celebration will be posted at [www.demosdurdan.com](http://www.demosdurdan.com) where you are welcome to sign the online guestbook.

We were blessed to have such loving parents for so many years. We will miss them dearly and find comfort in one of Bill's favorite quotes from Billy Graham: "When you read of my death in the newspaper, don't believe it. I'll be more alive than ever."

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ Jerry and I just found out that our favorite teacher and his beautiful wife passed away recently. We had just wondered about them a few days ago. Mr. Corcoran had the biggest effect on both of us...me as my 6th grade teacher and Jerry as a math teacher and basketball coach. When we saw him eight years ago, he cried because he loved us. I am convinced that he was happy that we were together. His wife, Jane was very happy to see us with the husband she so obviously adored. We aspire to be as in love as they were and I think we are. Mr. Corcoran was a perfect example of God's love to us. The Narnia series by CS Lewis that he read to our class literally changed my life. YOU, Bill and Jane's family were the most blessed. Thank you for the joy of your parents❤️❤️ With love, Linda (Kinney) Hackenbruck and Jerry Hackenbruck

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Linda and Jerry Hackenbruck - September 09, 2020 at 10:22 PM

TA

“ Bill and Jane were the patriarch and matriarch os LifeSpring Foursquare. Bill gave me a hug each Sunday morning. He reminded me of my own Dad when I would greet him and Jane. They both loved the Lord so much and you could see it in their every day lives when I would visit them. I took some great pictures of them, one of which they gave to their children. I was pleased. Jane took such good care of her husband and it was a joy to be with them. I miss them but I am so glad they are no longer having to be here on earth. And away from the virus and all else that is going on. I can't wait to hear Bill sing once again when I get to heaven and join up with them once again.

Terri Allen



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**Terri Allen** - August 10, 2020 at 07:13 PM

CR

“ Several years back I did some Bible studies at Stoneybrook Lodge. I will always remember the gracious and joyful greeting I always received from Bill and Jane. They were great ambassadors for their Lord Jesus.

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**Craig** - July 23, 2020 at 01:13 PM

BK

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Bob Kipper** - July 22, 2020 at 07:38 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home and Crematory - July 21, 2020 at 03:27 PM



*I first met Bill and Jane at Good Samaritan Church in Corvallis in 1975. We have been sharing experiences since then. They were generous supporters of our missionary work in Bolivia and now for the past 25 years in Brazil. They will be remembered as faithful and joyful followers of Jesus Christ, who believed in making a difference in their world*

Douglas Lamp - July 27, 2020 at 07:05 AM

Carrie Pool

“ Carrie Pool lit a candle in memory of Jane and William Corcoran



Carrie Pool - June 01, 2020 at 10:37 PM

GV

“ Jane Corcoran always had a ready smile and enthusiastic message anytime you would see her. She and her husband raised 4 amazing children and were devoted to their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Our thoughts go out to her entire family. May it bring comfort that she is a peaceful rest.



Ginni and Dan Vick - May 26, 2020 at 03:36 PM

BF

“ *Barb Fitzgerald lit a candle in memory of Jane and William Corcoran*



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**Barb Fitzgerald** - May 23, 2020 at 03:13 PM

KN

*We have had you in our thoughts these recent months, Susan. Your losses have been great. We send our sympathies to you for Jonathan, Jane, and Bill.*

*Kay and George Novak*

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**Kay Novak** - July 25, 2020 at 10:36 PM

CR

*Peg and had the honor to know Jane and Bill for a decade or so through their daughter Joanie, who is a neighbor. You couldn't imagine friendlier or sweeter folks, and Bill entertained us over the years with his beautiful Irish tenor. They were an inspirational couple and will be missed.*

*Charles Roseberry, Beaverton.*

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**Charles A Roseberry** - August 10, 2020 at 04:14 PM