



Mrs. Mary Ann Dalton Rickert

December 13, 1920 - March 12, 2016

Mary Ann (Winebrenner) Dalton Rickert, 95, of Greenwood, Ind., died Saturday, March 12, 2016, at IU Health Bloomington Hospice House. Born Dec. 13, 1920, in Huntington, Ind., she was the eldest daughter of Fred E. and Celia M. (Cramer) Winebrenner. She graduated from Huntington High School in 1939, and in 1943 she earned a bachelor of arts in music and English at Indiana Central College (now the University of Indianapolis). Mary Ann taught for 33 years at the junior high and middle school levels in Marion County's Perry Township schools, mostly teaching band, orchestra and English. She was a charter member of Women Band Directors International, including being international secretary for eight years, and was an adjudicator for bands at contests in Indiana.

She married William W. Dalton on Aug. 22, 1943. A physician, he had a private practice for many years before working for Eli Lilly & Co. He died in 1998. Her second marriage, on Aug. 30, 2001, was to former high school classmate Robert L. Rickert, a retired photographer and family counselor. They lived in Huntington for several years before his health declined and they moved to Greenwood. He died in 2008.

After retiring early from teaching in 1976, Mary Ann was a docent at the Indianapolis Zoo for 14 years, doing photography projects and presenting classroom educational programs that including handling snakes, skunks and birds. Her hobbies included travel photography, needlework, sewing and fishing. She and Bill were world travelers, visiting dozens of countries, islands

ranging from Fiji to the Galapagos, and such exotic spots as the interior of King Tut's tomb. She set foot on every continent except Antarctica – a trip she wished she had made.

She was a member of Southport Presbyterian Church, where she was president of the women's association.

Survivors include her sister, Nancy McCracken of Baton Rouge, La.; a nephew, Mike McCracken (Trish) of Georgetown, Texas; nieces Barbara Nester of Amarillo, Texas, Susan Curry (Jimmy) of Richmond, Texas, and Peggy Sheets (Neal) of Baton Rouge, La.; great-nieces Erin Curry and Holly Eisenzimmer (Shawn); great-great nephew Gavin Eisenzimmer; step-children Mark Rickert (Ginny) of Centerville, Ohio, Beth Rickert-Kinsey of Fort Wayne, Ind., and her primary caregiver Janice Rickert (Carolyn VandeWiele) of Bloomington, Ind.; step-granddaughters Becky Rickert (Abby Martin) and Michele Borns (John); and step-great-grandsons Liam Martin and Levi Borns. Special thanks go to her longtime medical providers and friends, Dr. Daniel Hurley and his wife and nurse, Jennifer Hurley; the staffs at Greenwood Meadows and Bell Trace assisted living in Bloomington, where she spent portions of her final year while rehabbing from two surgeries; and the Bloomington Hospice House, where she received exceptional care while making a smooth and peaceful transition.

An informal celebration of Mary Ann's life will be 2-4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 9, in the Card Room at Greenwood Village South, 295 Village Lane, Greenwood. Burial will be private at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dr. William W. and Mary Ann Winebrenner Dalton Music Scholarship fund at the University of Indianapolis. Allen Funeral Home and Crematory in Bloomington is handling arrangements. You can share a memory or leave an online condolence at www.allencares.com.

Tribute Wall

PW

“ I was a 9th grader at Perry East in 1962. I played sousaphone and one of my fondest memories is practicing in the outdoor parking lot with the marching band, doing routines where we played and did maneuvers while on the march. I found it exciting to coordinate choreography with the playing, and at one point Mrs. Dalton set me as an example, saying I hadn't missed a step while playing the biggest instrument!

Paul Wolf

Paul Wolf - December 04, 2024 at 02:33 PM

EC

“ As a 7th grader at Perry Central in 1961, I was a foster child in the Indianapolis system. I was living in a very abusive home at the time. One day, in her music appreciation class, Mary Ann asked me to stay after class for a few minutes. I wasn't sure what she wanted, but she asked me if I would be interested in taking music lessons on tuba/sousaphone. I expressed doubts, said I couldn't possibly ask my foster parents for money for lessons or an instrument. She told me ok, she would give me private lessons before and after school for free, and the school owned the instrument. I said yes. Within weeks, I was proficient enough to join B band, and in the fall, I was in A band. During the summer, the school loaned me an instrument so I could practice. It was a start to music and life and taught me that someone out there cared about me. I transferred to Howe in my sophomore year, living at the Marion County Children's Guardian's Home, playing in the band, playing football, getting good grades, and by my senior year, I was first chair for the Indianapolis Youth Symphony. I owe everything to Mary Ann Dalton, and have always wished I could see her and thank her. If any of her relatives see this, feel free to contact me, ed.coonce@yahoo.com Rest in peace, Mary Ann.

Ed Coonce - December 25, 2022 at 01:18 PM

CT

“ Mrs. Dalton was my string and orchestra teacher. She encouraged me to do my best on the violin, and reminded me that practice at home wouldn't hurt. I always admired how precise she was with the beat of the music. I can close my eyes and still picture her leading us with her little baton. She had a great sense of humor, but could quiet the group in an instant with a raised eyebrow. She was the best!

Cindy (Haun) Thompson

Cindy Thompson - March 30, 2016 at 08:11 AM

BN

“ You were one of the biggest influences in my life, my dear aunt. You were much loved and admired by everyone in our family. You will be sorely missed. Love, Barbie

Barbie McCracken Nester - March 22, 2016 at 08:05 PM

SC

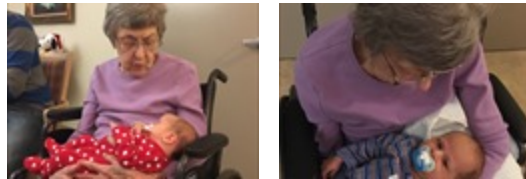
“ Rest in peace, Mary Ann. You really had an amazing, extremely productive, adventurous life. Thank you for all you did for your family. I'll miss you. Love, Susie

Susie Curry - March 21, 2016 at 12:00 PM



Jennifer Hurley

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jennifer Hurley - March 17, 2016 at 10:58 PM



“ Just in case you didn't believe the part about handling snakes as part of the zoo's educational program!



Janice Rickert - March 16, 2016 at 08:12 PM



“ I didn't know MaryAnn long but she loved sharing her memories of her father,sister, family and childhood. She was a wonderful lady and will be missed.

Barbara Hughey

Barbara Hughey - March 16, 2016 at 04:56 PM