



Mary Alice Miller

December 25, 1927 - January 15, 2021

Mary Alice Miller passed away in Portland on January 15th at the age of 93.

Mary was born in Denver on Christmas morning of 1927 to Henry Essig and Gertrude (Olson) Essig, and grew up in the Denver area. She graduated from West High School in 1945 and from Colorado State College of Education in Greeley in 1950.

After teaching high school for two years in Port Townsend, Washington, Mary enjoyed three years working as a stewardess with United Airlines, often flying on propeller-driven planes such as the DC-6.

In 1954 she married Robert Leland Miller of Portland, who died in 1986 after a career with the Crown Zellerbach paper company. They lived in Portland, Port Townsend, Clatskanie, Oregon, and Vancouver, Washington.

She enjoyed substitute teaching, gardening, and playing bridge. Active in the Lutheran church, in 1969 she was a founding member of Faith Lutheran Church in Clatskanie. An engaged and loving mother for her four rambunctious sons, she was also a world traveler later in life.

She is survived by four sons, David of Beaverton, Steven and his wife Leslie Hildula of Portland, Jeffrey of Seattle, Gregory and his wife Mary Horrall of

Portland, and two grandchildren, Quinn and Robert. Mary is also survived by her sister, Jean Kohtz of Richmond, Virginia, and was preceded in death by her brother, Leonard Essig of Denver.

Due to Covid safety measures, a small service will be held for family only. Remembrances may be shared at [evergreenmemorialgardens.com/obituaries](https://www.evergreenmemorialgardens.com/obituaries).

If you would like to honor Mary's memory, please send donations to the Albertina Kerr charity in Portland.

Mary was well loved and will be dearly missed.

Tribute Wall



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Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 06:49 PM

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“ While I did not know Mary for long, I valued the wonderful conversations I had with her when she visited my Aunty Lila Jones in Clatskanie between 1986 and Lila's death in 1997. I remember my husband, Mike, and I bringing Lila to Mary's home in the Portland area for lunch one time. Lila loved Mary and considered her a dear friend. I lost touch with Mary after Lila's death but seeing her obituary in the Clatskanie Chief brought back some very fond memories. She loved her family and I know you will all miss having her physically in your daily lives. What a great gal!

Kathy Engel - February 12, 2021 at 12:00 AM

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“ Mary Alice Miller

Funeral Home Owner - February 01, 2021 at 12:00 AM