



Mary McComb Hobart

July 25, 1943 - December 12, 2021

Mary McComb Hobart died on Sunday evening, December 12th, at Lankenau Medical Center with her son Bob by her side.

Mary was born on July 25th, 1943 in Washington, D.C., the daughter of a pediatrician and a psychiatrist. She attended the National Cathedral School, for which she maintained a lifelong fondness. Mary spent her summers playing tennis before traveling to Chicago for college. After graduating from Northwestern University, she moved to Philadelphia, raising Bob and his late brother, Michael, on her own while working in non-profit development notably at the Philadelphia Zoo, WHYY, and NJN.

Always putting everyone else before herself, she was the biggest and most loyal fan on the sidelines of her sons' games - The Ultimate Booster.

After her boys graduated from college, Mary moved to work in Massachusetts, immersing herself in all things New England. She continued to work in development at CPTV and the National Association for Amateur Radio (ARRL). She became an enthusiastic gardener, an avid rower and a huge fan and fundraiser for UCONN Women's Basketball!

In 2014, Mary retired and moved to Philadelphia to be closer to family. She was given the gift every grandparent dreams of: time to enjoy her

grandchildren. Tricia and MaryCate were her pride and joy. They formed a special relationship as she watched them grow into accomplished young adults.

Mary was an active member of St. George's parish. In spite of medical difficulties that could have slowed her down, she worked tirelessly for the parish in a multitude of ways. She was unfailingly generous with her time, talent, and treasure in equal measure. Serving on the Vestry and becoming a beloved member of the parish family filled her life like no other community. "Living Faithfully and Giving Generously", was her mantra.

Mary was predeceased by her son Michael Markey of Goochland, VA, brother Harold Hobart of Washington, DC; and sister Nancy Hobart of Athens, GA. She is survived by her son, Bob Markey (Colleen) and her two granddaughters, Tricia and MaryCate.

A Requiem Mass will be celebrated Saturday, January 8th at Saint George's Episcopal Church, Ardmore. Visitors may call at 9am, followed by Mass at 10am and Interment in the church's Memorial Garden.

The Service will be livestreamed at www.facebook.com/StGeorgeArdmore

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Saint George's Church, 1 West Ardmore Ave, Ardmore, PA 19003

Previous Events

The family will receive guests

JAN 8. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. George's Episcopal Church
1 West Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Memorial Service

JAN 8. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. George's Episcopal Church
1 West Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Tribute Wall

LF

“ Nearly two years later, I'm saddened to just now hear of Mary's passing. I was fortunate to have worked with her during her brief time at UNC-TV (now PBS North Carolina) and must echo the sentiments left here by others. I remember Mary most fondly, as she was a joy to work with: the walking personification of professionalism coupled with humility and kindness. Albeit belated, I wish to extend my prayers and condolences to her family and friends.



Len Faulconer - November 20, 2023 at 03:02 PM

DP

“ I only recently learned of Mary's passing. My deepest condolences to the entire family. I only knew Mary a very short time and she made such a positive, lasting impression on me. I sat next to Mary during the 2020 - 2021 Villanova Women's Basketball season at Villanova University. Mary was such a kind, friendly and smart person who was truly a pleasure to speak with. She had an obvious love of women's college basketball. I looked forward to each game and chatting with her about the Villanova team and just life in general. She will truly be missed, but never forgotten.



David Capelli, Lafayette Hill, PA - August 17, 2022 at 09:13 AM

BC

“ *Mary was my freshman roommate in Willard Hall at Northwestern. Along with Cookie we made a great team of three. Never a disagreement and always lots of laughs. Sorry to hear of her passing. Barbara Robinson Coates*

Barbara Coates - August 06, 2022 at 03:47 PM

BH

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Barbara Hogan - January 08, 2022 at 08:18 AM

BH

Mary won Kings Head Regatta in her single Sept 2014

Barbara Hogan - January 08, 2022 at 08:19 AM

BH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Barbara Hogan - January 08, 2022 at 08:16 AM

BH

Mary at Kings Head Regatta Sept of 2014

Barbara Hogan - January 08, 2022 at 08:17 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary McComb Hobart.*



January 06, 2022 at 08:26 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary McComb Hobart.*



January 05, 2022 at 03:38 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary McComb Hobart.*



January 05, 2022 at 11:07 AM

EG

“ It is sad and hard to remain behind in a world without Mary in it. We were together from kindergarten through 12th grade, at Beauvoir and National Cathedral School in Washington, D.C., and our parents knew and liked each other. I loved Mary's mother, and Mary and her sister, Nancy, were just like her -- genuinely kind, genuinely interested in people, helping them however they could, generous, warm and calming, and strong. Mary led us all through our 60th class reunion this past May. We knew her health was fragile, but we all relied on her. We just could not really believe that she could so soon be gone. We loved her and always will.
Elsa Peterson Gibson

Elsa Peterson Gibson - December 29, 2021 at 10:10 AM

CV

“ I am so saddened to learn of the passing of Mary.... I knew her when I was a student at National Cathedral School (NCS) and we reconnected later in life when Mary generously became the class "voice" for our '61 NCS, alumnae news.

My fondest memories were of Mary attending my birthday parties... (I will post a photo of her there in a couple of days). Such a light and joy to be around. Mary was always very caring and supportive.

I grew up living in a hotel as my father was a hotel manager. I missed having neighborhood friends to play with. However, birthday parties and sleep overs tended to help ease that situation and are a large part of my "memory album".

Mary, you will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences to Mary's son and family.

Carol Livingstone Vogel

carol vogel - December 23, 2021 at 09:02 AM

JB

“ I was so sad to see Mary’s lovely face in the Philadelphia Inquirer obituary section. I teach art history at Villanova and Mary audited my classes for several years in the University’s Senior Citizen program. She shared aspects of her interesting life in class discussions which I’m sure gave the traditional age students a different perspective. She was a wonderful person and had a keen interest in learning about art during the years she took my classes.

I send heartfelt condolences to all of Mary’s family. I’m so sorry to hear of your loss.

Jeanne Brody - December 21, 2021 at 12:53 PM

CS

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about Mary. She was a great lady and I enjoyed working with her during her time at ARRL. She was always ready to tackle anything even to the point of serving a term as president of the local ARRL radio club in Newington. She will be long remembered and we all will miss her. My sympathies to her family.

Chuck Skolaut KØBOG

Chuck Skolaut - December 17, 2021 at 11:43 PM

HF

“ I was a sorority sister with Mary in Kappa Delta at Northwestern University between 1961 and 1965. Our 1965 graduating class sorority members were close during our time at Northwestern. Although most of us live far apart, over the years we met for sorority reunions from time to time. During the recent covid months we renewed our friendships with some wonderful zoom meetings. Mary was always a central person in our sorority life. She was always positive, vibrant, caring and energetic. Mary was a real leader in our group, whether it was during college or in our post-college lives. I send sincere condolences to Mary's beloved family. She will be very missed by her sorority sisters.

Hiya Field - December 17, 2021 at 03:53 PM

MP

“ Mary and I grew up as childhood friends in the Briarcliff neighborhood of Washington, D.C. Her father Dr.Hobart was my pediatrician and he came to the house to give me a penicillin shot! I loved him anyway.
Our parents were pals and Mary was my idol at National Cathedral School where we both played varsity basketball. We spent hours shooting the hoops.
The last years I have followed her family life, her church life and travels on Facebook. I have lived in California for more than half my life now. I send heartfelt sympathy to her beloved family and only wish I lived close enough to attend her memorial services Pennsylvania.

Meredith Pechoultres - December 17, 2021 at 01:31 PM



“ *Even though we had not been in touch much since she left the ARRL, I thought of her often.*

I had the pleasure and privilege of working with Mary as both a volunteer and as a League officer. Mary was one of those people who always made it so very easy to work with. I always felt that she loved her work at the ARRL, and it showed.

Her many achievements will be recognized by her family and the hundreds friends made at the ARRL. Her legacy will include, amongst many other things, her success in having insured the stability of the ARRL for many, many years to come as a result of her raising tens of thousands of dollars in donations and grants.

I truly believe that she was equally as important to the organization in her tenure at the ARRL, as were the founders of the League over 100 years earlier.

My deepest condolences to Mary's family on her loss. She was a great lady. I an honored to have known her.

Mike Lisenco N2YBB

Mike Lisenco - December 16, 2021 at 10:39 PM

MW

“ *My deepest condolences to Mary's family. I had the pleasure of meeting Mary back in the fall of 2013 and helped her make some rigging adjustments to her single shell. Mary's zest for rowing and her desire to improve were wonderful to see. I feel fortunate to have met her and she will be greatly missed. -Mike Wagner, Sagamore Rowing, Oyster Bay, NY*

Mike Wagner - December 16, 2021 at 07:18 PM



“ Anyone who had the chance to call Mary a friend knows how special she was. We started rowing with Riverfront Recapture around the same time and spent she was on tough lady! Even when she wasn't racing she would come and help out and cheers her team on. I had the privilege of seeing her at one of her last races before she retired from the sport (Head of the Charles 2014). Even though she had a mechanical issue she pushed thru and finished the race. You will be missed my friend, but your spirit will never be gone!



Kimberly McVey - December 16, 2021 at 06:17 PM

MH

“ 6 files added to the album Rowing



Michael Harnad - December 16, 2021 at 02:39 PM

BW

“*Mary Hobart was a loved and valued member of the Riverfront Rowing family and, especially, of the Women's Racing Team. She always gave everything her all and supported all of her teammates as enthusiastically and loudly as we did her! She is missed but will always be in our hearts and remembered every time we row the "Hobart," named in her honor!*

Beth Weber - December 16, 2021 at 01:43 PM

DN

“*There are no words that can express what a wonderful friend and colleague Mary was to me. While both working for the ARRL, we shared so many things - operating adventures, concerts, meals, meetings, and joy, with a few hard times mixed in to keep it interesting I suppose. I have missed her wise counsel and caring spirit but have always found strength in our bond of friendship. My sincere thoughts and prayers go to Bob and the girls -- she so often spoke of you and know she celebrated every moment of retirement with you. Rest in Peace and Joy Ho-Ho... The victory of life is won...*

Dan Henderson, N1ND - December 16, 2021 at 07:52 AM

CA

“*Mary was always a great part of the crew, rowing at Riverfront Recapture in Hartford, and supporting her teammates always. She raced in the competitive Head of the Charles in Boston (this photo) multiple times. But beyond races and practices, she was a friend to everyone, ready to lend a hand or a cheer whenever needed. Her memory will always be strong among friends on the water.*



Carol - December 16, 2021 at 12:19 AM

JB

“ I had the pleasure of working with Mary at the American Radio League in her capacity as Chief Development officer. As a volunteer board member, I interacted with her many times, and was always impressed as how she pressed on, no matter what obstacles stood in her way. She had a very vibrant and outgoing personality and will be truly missed. We are all better for having known her. My sincere condolences to her family.

James Boehner

James Boehner - December 15, 2021 at 11:15 PM

GH

“ This is very sad. We had the pleasure of hosting Mary some years back at PJ2T, the contest station on the island of Curacao. She arrived overcome with worry that she would not be comfortable operating in an amateur radio competition from such a busy location. But she dug in and learned fast, applying her optimism and can-do attitude as with all things, and really excelled and had fun in the process.

*Her work left the American Radio Relay League immeasurably better off, and we all loved her and valued her as a friend.
Condolences to her family from Geoff, W0CG, PJ2DX.*

Geoff Howard - December 15, 2021 at 07:50 PM

GR

“ My condolences to Mary’s family, she will be missed. I knew Mary through Riverfront rowing - knew her as a team mate, as member of the Board of Directors, tireless volunteer, as a fundraising inspiration. We cheered and marveled as she moved from learning to row to team boats, to indoor rowing races, and competing in her own boat at the legendary Head of the Charles regatta. She fearlessly tackled bad weather and bad water and embraced every challenge and found joy on the river. In Mary’s honor we dedicated a boat the Riverfront Recapture women still race in, named simply “Hobart.” My personal treasured memory, however, is simply that of her amazing tenacity - her resolve in completing the goals she set out on, and from that her inspiration to us all.

Gretchen Gregg



Gretchen - December 15, 2021 at 04:45 PM

MN

“ Our condolences to Mary's family. Mary was a positive influence that revolutionized the legacy of Amateur Radio. 73 dear friend. You are sorely missed.

Mark Beckwith N5OT
Trustee, Dave Bell Memorial Radio Club W6AQ

Mark Beckwith, N5OT - December 15, 2021 at 04:17 PM

BS

“ I knew Mary from her time at ARRL, and admired her so much for her vibrance, her intelligence, and her wonderful way with people. Sending love and comfort to her family and all who cared for her. --
Becky Rodia Schoenfeld

Becky Schoenfeld - December 15, 2021 at 04:17 PM

FH

“ A woman of varied interests - rowing, UConn Women's basketball, family, in addition to her work for ARRL and Connecticut Public Broadcasting. And a delightful person. She will be missed.

-Fred Hopengarten (K1VR)

Fred Hopengarten - December 15, 2021 at 04:07 PM

RR

“ Mary did an outstanding job for Amateur Radio and the American Radio Relay League. Our donors loved dealing with Mary. She always had such a positive attitude and high spirits, even in difficult times. She will be missed by many.

RIP my friend, and condolences to the family.

*Rick Roderick – K5UR and Holly Roderick
President, ARRL*

Rick Roderick - December 15, 2021 at 03:59 PM

SK

“ I, too, knew Mary from her time at the National Association for Amateur Radio (ARRL). She was a delight to work and travel with, tried damned hard to see the good in everyone, and always had time to try and cheer me up on a bad day. She was a wonderful woman, and I shall miss her. Sean Kutzko (KX9X)

Sean Kutzko - December 15, 2021 at 03:46 PM

WS

“ I knew Mary when she was Development Director for the ARRL and really enjoyed working with her. I'm sad to hear this news and send my condolences to her family. Ward Silver

Ward Silver - December 15, 2021 at 03:09 PM