

## Celebrating Gail

Emily Gail Fox MacLean passed on January 12th, 2025. She was 94 years old. For the last two years, since 2022, she has lived with the assistance of her family in her apartment at Revel Independent Living in Lacey, Washington. She passed peacefully at home under the watchful and loving care of her family and Assured Hospice. Gail was the beloved matriarch of her family. She was a daughter, sister, niece, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, and is survived by her three sons, Rick, Dave and John, her three grandchildren, Jasmine, Madeline and Ian, and her great-grandchild, little Emmett.

Gail was born 1930 in Carbondale, Illinois and raised in the midst of the Great Depression. She lived the first years of her life on her maternal Grandfather's farm in Crab Orchard, Illinois. From here she and her family moved to Paducah, Kentucky where she graduated from Tilghman High School in 1948. She met her husband, Tom MacLean, at Murray State College in Murray, Kentucky. Gail and Tom had three boys, Rick, Dave and John, and after living for a short period of time in Louisville, KY and Richmond, VA, Gail's young family moved across the country to Bellevue, Washington for Tom to take a job at Boeing.

In addition to being a dedicated mother, Gail earned her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education at the University of Washington in 1966 and worked for many years as an elementary school teacher in Bellevue. In 1980, she received her Master of Counseling from Seattle University and continued working as a school counselor with Bellevue Public Schools. For 15 years while living in Bellevue, she was a violinist in the Bellevue Philharmonic Orchestra. In 1992, she retired from Bellevue Public Schools and then worked as a school counselor at the International American School in Kuwait for two years and then at the International School of Beijing for four years in the mid 1990s. In 2007, she moved to the Jubilee community in Lacey, Washington to be closer to her grandchildren. In 2019 and 2020, at age 89 and 90, she lived for 9 months in Vienna, Austria with her granddaughter, Jasmine, to fulfill a dream of travelling together. Gail was a world traveler, having been to 48 countries. She liked to joke that she could write a book about all of the toilets that she had experienced in China. She loved to experience new cultures and to make new friends from all walks of life. She was as open-hearted as they come. Loved by many, Gail was an essential pillar within her many communities. She was the founder of the "Vashon Vixens" dinner group in her Jubilee community, an active member of her Sorority (Tri Sigma), and served as role model to everyone she met. She loved to socialize and could always be counted on to lend an ear, give advice and be there for support when you needed her. And, of course, she brought life to the party. Wherever Gail was, bright, warm light followed. She will live in our hearts forever.

## *Celebrating the Life of Gail MacLean*

*July 22, 1930 — January 12, 2025*



The United Churches of Olympia • 110 11th Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501

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Celebrating the Life of  
**Gail MacLean**

February 8, 2025 • 2:00 PM

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Prelude: Classical Piano Arrangement

April Kuhr

Welcome

Rev. Lara Crutsinger-Perry

Opening Prayer

Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth #14*

Remembrances From Family

John MacLean, Jasmine MacLean,  
Dave MacLean, Rik Foxx

Hymn: *In the Bulb There is a Flower #250*

Remembrances From Friends

Scripture: Matthew 22:36-40

Homily

Pastor Lara

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of our Savior

Our Mother/Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Photo Montage: Leaving on a Jet Plane

Closing Words and Blessing

Pastor Lara

Postlude: Pachelbel Canon in D

April Kuhr

*Please join the family in the Fireside Room after the service for dinner and refreshments.*

