

Spring 2021

A Journey to Remember

Wisdom of the Ages

The Story of Barbara Wieneke

It's not every day that you get the pleasure of meeting someone who is 100 years old, so I wasn't quite sure what to expect as I walked into Barbara "Babs" Wieneke's home and stood by her bedside. I certainly did not expect to meet someone who had a story as unique and interesting as hers.

Born in 1921 in New Jersey, Barbara grew up in Connecticut. She fondly remembers ice skating on the neighborhood pond (and scampering through the scary woods to get there!) and jumping into the back of the neighborhood coal truck to ride to the top of a hill for sledding. She was even voted "Most Good Looking" in her high school class.

Barbara lived in many interesting places over the years. She remembers being in Ann Arbor, MI when she heard the news that we were entering into World War II. She had recently married her husband John, a genius nuclear physicist who earned four engineering degrees by the time he was twenty.

Shortly after they were married, he was recruited by Robert Oppenheimer to work on a top-secret project out in the New



Story continued on p. 2

New Website

We are so excited to announce that our new website is up! Now you can easily learn more about all the amazing services we offer at Coastal, learn more about our staff and board members, read our latest blog post, or reach out and contact us.

www.coastalhhh.org

New Employee Benefit!

In an effort to make working for Coastal Home Health & Hospice that much more awesome, all clinical employees are now eligible to receive student loan payback assistance! We believe that our employees should spend their time focused on patient care, not worried about paying back loans.

If you or someone you know is looking for a job, check out our employment page at coastalhhh.org/careers

The Story of Barbara Wieneke, *cont.*

Mexico desert. Barbara, being a passionate and supportive wife, dutifully helped load their car with their most valuable possessions, including their new two-month-old daughter, Pat. Together, they drove west into the unknown.

The Manhattan Project was so new that housing for the scientists and their families was not yet completed, so the military made arrangements for the Wienekes to stay at a dude ranch in the nearby Nambe Valley. As they drove up the winding roads to their temporary new home, the unique smell of the piñon wood smoke rising from people's fireplaces filled the air.

Barbara loved life in New Mexico. The slower pace of life complimented her transition into new wife and mother. There was another couple with a daughter who was about the same age as Pat, and they and all of the other residents got along very well.

Eventually, the government finished building family housing at Los Alamos, so the Wienekes moved into their new apartment. The government did not allow personal furniture or home ownership, but Barbara was very happy with their spacious 3-bedroom unit located on the edge of a canyon.

Soon, Pat started to attend school. Barbara would run to the back bedroom of their apartment to wave goodbye as the bus carried Pat away for the day. Barbara started working, first managing the schedules of the local women who would work as housekeepers for the military families, then later starting a clothing company with her friend.

Barbara and her family lived in Los Alamos for a total of 9 years. After that, they decided that they wanted to have their own house, so they purchased some land halfway between Los Alamos and Santa Fe and built their own home out of adobe. Pat helped to build the walls, and their son Jeffrey helped out on the roof. Money was very tight because building supplies were expensive and difficult to come by in such a remote location.

After living in their adobe house for a number of years, they relocated to Los Angeles, California

where John started a new job at Hughes Aircraft (the same company that built the famous Spruce Goose aircraft, now housed in the Evergreen Museum in McMinnville, Oregon). I'm sure Barbara has many more anecdotes to share about this time in her life, and of all her adventures between Los Angeles and the time when she moved up to Brookings, but those stories will have to be shared another day!

Barbara Weineke passed on June 6, 2021.

Barbara's secret to living to 100:

“Stay active!”

3 pieces of advice from Barbara:

“Keep our liberties. Keep our sanity. Keep our love for each other.”

Did you enjoy this interview?

Visit our website for new interviews every month!

Share your stories!

We believe everyone has a unique and interesting story to share! If you would like to share your wisdom, life experiences, or just a funny joke or photo, please reach out to our Marketing Manager, Jen, at 541-251-7352.

Coastal Fundraiser

Show your love of Curry County while supporting a good cause!

Visit coastalhhh.org/shop to get your “No Hurry In Curry” shirt, hoodie, journal, phone case, and more.

Featuring me!





Stitched to Share

Port Orford Quilt Club

Sometimes the thing you need in life is a great big, warm hug. But since you can't have that every single moment of every single day, a gorgeous, handmade quilt is definitely the next best thing.

For the past five years, members of The Port Orford Quilt Club lovingly craft around 75 gorgeous quilts per year for our hospice patients. Each quilt is pieced together using "orphaned" extra quilt blocks and leftover fabric, making each quilt a unique group effort. The quilts frequently become treasured family heirlooms, and remind patients (like Mr. Norris Gaines, pictured above with his beautiful wildlife-themed quilt) about just how much their community cares about them.

If you are a quilter (or would like to become one!) and are interested in sewing with the Port Orford Quilt Club, you can call either Chris (541-332-2400) or Martha (541-332-7020) for more details. They meet on the first Tuesday of every month in Port Orford.



Community Pride

The Azalea Parade

We had so much fun walking in the Azalea parade this year! You, and the rest of the members of this community, are the reason why we work hard every day to bring you the best in home health and hospice care.

Seeking Volunteers

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” -Maya Angelou

If you’re looking to make a massive impact on the lives of members of our community, we are actively seeking volunteers.

You will be able to shine in your skills and talents, bringing light, love, and joy to the lives of hospice patients and their families. Here are some of the many ways you can get involved:

- Friendly visiting
- Be a friend
- Reading
- Going for a walk together
- Running errands
- Massage therapy (*requires license*)
- Preparing meals
- Pet care
- Capturing their life stories
- Playing games
- Watching TV or movies together
- Helping around the house
- Playing music
- Gardening

Or use your unique skills and talents in other ways - just ask us!

Volunteers will earn their Certified End of Life Specialist (CEOLS) for free.

If you’re interested in learning more, reach out to Toni our Volunteer Coordinator at 541-251-7400 or visit coastalhhh.org/volunteer



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