

Marylou Schall Memorial Plaza

Marylou Schall, a long-time resident of Longview and Kelso, was born and raised in Seattle. A graduate of Broadway High School, she had planned on a university degree but life plans changed to include a young family and work.

Learning and helping others was at the heart of Marylou's career at Lower Columbia College. From 1964 to 1997, she worked in the Office of Instruction and the Registration Office. Coworkers remember her as a fun person with boundless, positive energy who loved both her work and the college. Her decision to retire after more than 30 years was very difficult.

In retirement, she became an avid supporter of Red Devil basketball. "There is no doubt how much she loved the LCC basketball program and the young athletes who brought so much joy not only to herself but to many," said her daughter, Donna Myers. "She loved that the student athletes brought people together to support the college she loved so much." Marylou and her longtime friend, Marven Abraham, seldom missed a game and often traveled to playoff games in different locations around the state.

Marylou was passionate about giving back to her college and her community. After retiring, she was active as a volunteer for an English as a Second Language tutoring program, at the Kelso Public Library, Catlin Elementary School and with the LCC Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

A dedicated mother, Marylou made sure her twin daughters, Donna Myers and Randi Gord would have opportunities not available to her by working hard to finance their college educations. "It was Mom's love of education that inspired me to teach," said Randi.

Following her death in October 2013, Marylou presented a final gift to the students and athletes at her beloved college through her daughters. Her donation established the Marylou Schall Memorial Scholarship Endowment, which will assist students to achieve their dreams of a college education, and the Red Devils Athletics Excellence Fund to insure the continuation of LCC athletic programs.

It is fitting that this beautiful outdoor space designed to bring together students for study and conversation be named in her honor.

