

## Obituary

**Born:** Sunday, May 22, 1932

**Died:** Saturday, August 21, 2021

Dolores Magdalena Cahill was born May 22, 1932 in Glen Ullin, North Dakota and passed away at her home at Thornhollow, Oregon on August 21, 2021 with her husband and five children around her. At an early age her family moved to Hamilton, Montana where her family worked on a dairy farm. At the beginning of World War II, the family moved to Vancouver, Washington where her mother worked in the shipyards.

Dolores attended Providence Academy while her twin brother Vern and older brother Arnold went to Vancouver public schools. She took piano lessons at an early age and often played for the GIs at the local USO. After graduating from high school, she attended Clark College where she met Jim Cahill whom she married in 1953 and with whom she would spend the next 68 years of her life. Twenty of those years were spent as a military wife following her husband on his various assignments in the Air Force.

During their first tour of duty in Birkenfeld, Germany she gave birth to Kevin and to Thomas who died in infancy at a military hospital. Some years later while stationed in England, she gave birth to Kelly and Elizabeth. Following that tour of duty they moved to Tucson, Arizona where Katherine and Jamey were born. She moved with her children to Vancouver when Jim was assigned to Vietnam in 1965 and 66. Their last move was to Dow AFB, Bangor, Maine where they stayed for five years allowing Dolores time to earn her Bachelor's degree at the Northern Conservatory of Music in 1972. During many of these moves she played the organ at base chapels and often started choirs.

She taught music and shared her love of singing with many generations of students in the elementary and middle school in Weston, Oregon. She also inspired many with her musical gifts at Sacred Heart Catholic Church where she



## Service Summary

---

### Memorial Service

11:00 AM Wed Sep 01, 2021

### Sacred Heart Catholic Church

5th and College  
Athena, Oregon 97801

was the church organist and the family have been members for almost 50 years. She was an avid golfer, member of the Pendleton Country Club and past Women's' Club president. She loved the many annual trips with several couples to play beautiful golf courses in Canada. She was always ready for an adventure, whether reluctantly on horseback with her husband; nine-mile pack trips into the Eagle Cap Wilderness or rafting down the Rogue and Minam Rivers. She loved having her family around her and those gatherings would often involve lots of enthusiastic singing and instrumental play alongs by her children who she early on encouraged to explore their musical potential. She enjoyed gardening and nurturing things to their best potential. Her warm and engaging personality drew people to her. She never knew a stranger.

Dolores is survived by her husband Jim at home in Thornhollow, her brother Vern in Vancouver, WA, son Kevin (Beth Wasley) LaGrande, OR, son Kelly (Jane Stuessy), Port Townsend, WA, daughter Elizabeth (Diane Groff), Thornhollow, OR, daughter Katherine Britt (Rusty) Lexington, OR and son Jamey, Pendleton, OR. Her loving legacy also includes 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. The rosary will be said on August 31, 2021 at 7 pm at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Athena, OR. The funeral Mass for Dolores will be held September 1, 2021 at 11 am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with reception following in the parish hall. Funeral arrangements are made through Pendleton Pioneer Chapel, Folsom Bishop Funeral Home, Pendleton, OR. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Wounded Warrior Project or Good Shepherd Hospice.