



Bonnie Fairburn (Orr)

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I put myself through college: AA. BA., MA., MEd, PhD – It was fun learning. Grossmont, UC Santa Cruz, University of Colorado, Oregon State University.

I taught for 30 years at community colleges- mostly in Oregon and Washington. I pretty much enjoyed every day of it. I taught in Australia for a year and in England.

I retired at 59, and it was definitely worth waiting for.

I am a well-known gardener in this region and volunteer as a WSU Master Gardener and Master Composter. For the last 15 years I have been a radio personality known as the Dirt Diva. I write a gardening column for the **Wenatchee World**, and a cooking from the garden column called “Garden of Delights” for the **Goodlife Magazine**.

When I am not gardening I am bird watching. I am an avid birdwatcher and have traveled the world looking at sights and for birds. This photo was taken in October 2013 in the Erongo Mountains in Namibia.

I knit socks, watercolor, and cook. I am active volunteer in the church and community with a variety of activities ranging from Habitat for Humanity to local trail building along the Columbia River.

I have two cats, Oedipuss & Rex. Life is interesting every day, and I am very grateful for the opportunities that have evolved in my life. My best friend of 53 year is my best friend from Helix—Diane McDaniels Payne. We have been sharing hobbies and interests with enthusiasm, and she still listens to my stories about boyfriends! The only other person I have stayed in touch with besides, naturally, Vivian, my twin sister, is the man I went to the Senior Prom with, Jim Dobis (He and I returned together to the 20th reunion).

