



Diane McDaniel (Payne)

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I went to the Mountains within days of graduating. My husband Bill and I were married and lived in the Mammoth/Bishop area of the Eastern High Sierras. I was a professional cook at the School and at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. Then I was a clerk in an old fashioned general store for fishermen and locals at Crowley Lake. When a Jr. College opened in Bishop I took some classes. Eventually I spent 6 months at the University of California - Santa Barbara where I took 2 semesters of The Plants of California. That was an accomplishment for someone in their 45's who had lived all their adult life in a really small rural area. The job I enjoyed most was working for a Consulting Botanist for about 10 years. In the mean time we raised 2 boys who we put on skis in kindergarten. We retired after my husband had worked at the ski area for 40 years and spent the next 8 years being snowbirds going from Colorado to Arizona where we gold mined in the winter. During all this time I have enjoyed and treasured my special friendship of 53 years with my classmate from Helix and maid of honor - Evelyn Bonnie Orr Fairburn. I am still interested in natural things, wild flowers, rocks, photography. I quilt, do arts and crafts, cook, and garden. Lately I find, cut and polish rocks to make jewelry. To see this art form go to: <http://www.etsy.com/shop/RocksNWire> We have settled in the town of Olathe, Colorado.

