



Marty Coyle Betsch

March 8, 1947 - November 15, 2025

Margaret Kindt Coyle Betsch

Marty • Mom • Grandma • Sister • Trauma Mama • World-Famous Nurse

Marty • Code Queen

Margaret “Marty” Kindt Coyle Betsch, age 78, passed away on November 15, 2025, at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, Oregon, following a series of strokes. She was born on March 8, 1947, to Robert and Ruth Coyle in Berkeley, California.

Marty was raised in Ephrata and Moses Lake, Washington, where her adventurous and confident spirit quickly emerged. She graduated from Moses Lake High School in 1965 and earned the title of American Archer at Camp Zanika, where she was given the rare honor of shooting a flaming arrow into Lake Wenatchee. She was an accomplished pianist at a young age, playing duets with her father, and at just 16 years old, she recorded her own four-song album in Seattle—an early sign of the boldness and creativity that defined her life.

In 1968, Marty met the love of her life, Michael Betsch, in Seattle’s University District. She graduated from the University of Washington School of Nursing in 1969 and soon after joined the Army Nurse Corps. She was stationed at Fort Sam Houston and at Letterman Hospital at the Presidio in San Francisco, where she cared for soldiers who were burn victims of the Vietnam War. She retired as a First Lieutenant in 1971 from Fort Lewis, Washington.

Marty married her handsome husband, Michael Betsch of Great Falls,

Montana, in 1970 in Moses Lake, Washington. She continued her nursing career at the VA and at the Walla Walla Penitentiary, where she was deeply respected and protected by the inmates she cared for.

In 1975, Marty was hired at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, Oregon, then located on Hospital Hill in downtown Bend. That same year, she helped move every patient to the newly opened hospital on Neff Road. In 1985, she became one of the first Airlife nurses. Over the course of nearly four decades, Marty served in many roles at St. Charles, including ER and ICU nurse, House Supervisor, and Emergency Department Manager for nearly 30 years. It was during her time in the Emergency Department that she earned the nickname “Trauma Mama.”

Marty also served as a Hurricane Katrina Disaster Team Camp Commander with the Red Cross and later worked in the Disaster Training Department at St. Charles. She helped organize a free medical outreach program called Project Connect and often said one of her greatest joys was “raising up” young paramedics, nurses, and doctors. She retired in 2014 after 39 years of extraordinary service to St. Charles Medical Center.

Outside of work, Marty lived life with joy, curiosity, and style. She had a fun purple hat room filled with hats for every occasion—tea party anyone? She loved traveling with her family to National Parks, Disney World, Hawaii, Mexico, and more. In retirement, she and Michael traveled the world together, visiting Peru, Machu Picchu, the Galápagos Islands, Alaska, the Panama Canal, Budapest, the Netherlands, and many other destinations.

Marty especially cherished time with her grandson, Paxton, delighting in watching him grow, play sports, play piano, and enthusiastically discuss all things medical. She loved family time at the lakes, kayaking, snowshoeing, and singing around the piano. Rock-hounding with Michael was a favorite hobby, and she treasured time with friends through her rock-hounding club, girls’ nights, and poker group.

Marty gave generously to organizations including Shepherd’s House Ministries, Central Oregon Veterans Outreach (COVO), Bethlehem Inn

Homeless Shelter, and the Tunnel to Towers Foundation. Her final act of service was the donation of her corneas through the Lions Vision Gift program—still helping others even after death.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Michael Betsch; daughters Brenda (Luke) and Brandy (Scott); grandson Paxton; sisters Bobbi and Becky; and their families, along with countless friends, colleagues, and those whose lives she touched.

Donations in Marty's memory may be made to the St. Charles Foundation in support of the Emergency Department expansion—her lifelong passion. A permanent memorial in her name is being planned. <https://give.stcharlesfoundation.org/campaign/750755/donate>

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Westside Church on Shevlin Park Road in Bend, Oregon. A reception will follow. The service will be livestreamed at: <https://evt.live/marty-betsch-celebration-of-life>

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home of Bend, OR, was honored to serve the family

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (PT)

Westside Church
Shevlin Park Road
Bend, OR 97703

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Jennifer K. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marty Coyle Betsch.

Jennifer K. - January 07 at 11:49 PM

JW

“ I first met Marty & Mike at rock club meetings & field trips. More recently she & I hiked Pilot Butte regularly weather permitting. Her Dr said ok as long as she rested. So we took our time climbing & talking. She was so caring for others, Liebetrau's for example. Every time my husband, Jules, was in the hospital she visited. After Jules passed, she organized a group hike up Pilot Butte in his memory. Then she arranged times for some of our ladies for coffee first at coffee house & then at her home. She was always cheerful & talkative to everyone. I will miss her terribly as she was the glue that kept those who knew her together.

Jan Wetzel - January 07 at 03:54 PM



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Brenda Parazoo - January 06 at 05:23 PM

RP

“ *When I heard that Marty was sick my reaction was; not her, that can't be! She was so bright and full of life. Always ready to give and help other people. At work she was a force; capable, efficient, kind, experienced. Really though I didn't get to know Marty at work, I got to know her at the rock club. That's where I met that fun laughing girl who brought a sparkle to every day. I certainly will miss her and am grateful to have gotten to share some time with her even though it doesn't feel like enough.*

Ruth Pettit - January 05 at 03:57 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marty Coyle Betsch.*



January 05 at 03:03 PM

MB

“ I had the privilege of working with Marty for 15 years starting with the move down Hospital Hill to the creation and inception of Air Life. What a rush of memories. Dedication, stalwart, perfection, demanding ! are just the beginning of the adjectives that describe her. That laugh rings in my ears. She was one of the founders of the FFRR. First Floor Rebel Rousers ! We were a small effective group. Poor Sister K., Jim Lussier, Roger Highland, always watching, always on guard ! Thankfully the antics are not digitally documented...

Marty supervised exquisite provision of heath care. The lives she saved are too numerous to count. Her legacy continues through the work of those she trained and mentored.

Michael, Brenda, Brandy, Becky, Bobbi...I know there is a hole in your hearts the size of Texas. But I also know she has you lined out and you better follow her orders.

Godspeed my friend. Heaven is now in the process of reorganization. Please save a place.

Love, Margaret McMicken Bartol

Margaret McMicken Bartol - January 05 at 12:32 PM



Lovely tribute from Margaret McMicken Bartol,

Nancy Petersen - January 08 at 04:22 PM

KC

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Kris Countryman - December 30, 2025 at 11:36 AM

KC

“ More memories than I can begin to count! The snowmobiling trips every year, the holidays in Moses Lake, the holidays in Bend. Mostly I remember her voice when she was calling my name for whatever reason (some tones a bit more stern) and the distinct sound of her laugh. I'll miss you Aunt Marty. Thank you for so many wonderful memories ☐

Kris Countryman - December 29, 2025 at 12:50 AM

JM

“ 3 files added to the album Marty's Rockhounding adventures



John Moreau - December 28, 2025 at 02:37 PM



“ Along with her impact on the careers of countless nurses during her tenure, Marty impacted countless EMT's and Paramedic's during her tenure. This retired Fire Captain/Paramedic for one. I first met her in 1979, during my EMT-1 training. She took me under her wing, and we both formed a mutual respect and admiration for each other. I was honored to have known her for 46 years. She was one of my mentors who directly impacted my career in the Central Oregon Fire Service. Rest with the angels Marty, until we see you again. Steve and Beth Pengra

Steve Pengra - December 27, 2025 at 10:52 PM

TH

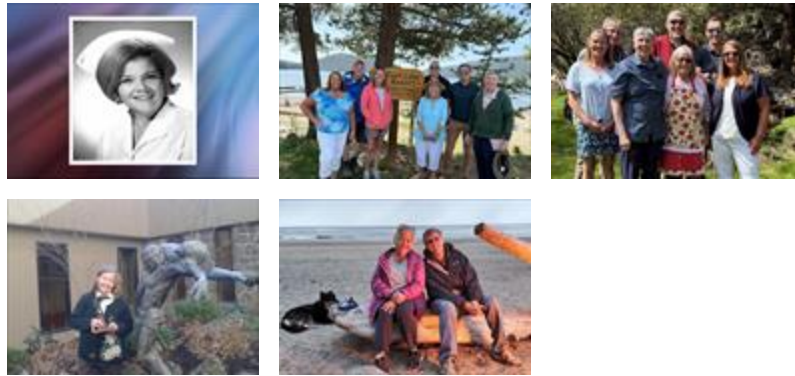
“ Our dear friend Marty! You were an Angel on Earth!
🌻🙏🌻



Teresa Hjeresen - December 22, 2025 at 10:52 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Marty's adventures



Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home & Greenwood Cemetery - December 22, 2025 at 02:33 PM

BC

Last picture was Marty and Mike dancing on our patio at Dick and Becky's wedding ❤️ May 23rd, 2013! So much fun 🥳

Becky Coyle - December 22, 2025 at 11:52 PM

PA

Good nurses are hard to forget. Great ones we never forget. Nurse Marty was one of the great ones. Rest in Peace. Perry Aldrich, retired Bend P.D.

Perry Aldrich - December 31, 2025 at 12:50 AM

JW

Marty was an integral person in hiring me as the first social worker for her emergency department. I was so honored and proud to be part of her great Team. She was a strong leader and very respected! Rest in peace Marty!

John Walkenhorst

John Walkenhorst - December 31, 2025 at 08:00 AM