

Minnesota State Public School Orphanage Museum & Historic Cottage 11 Boys' Dormitory ~ Summer 2017 Newsletter Edition ~

MAXINE RONGLIEN - MUSEUM CO-FOUNDER PASSES AWAY

Maxine Ronglien

October 31, 1934 – June 8, 2017

Maxine was born in Aurora Township, Minnesota, the daughter of Herman & Leora Grunklee. She graduated from Owatonna High School in 1952. She married Harvey Ronglien on December 27, 1952.

Maxine was employed at Federated Insurance for 37 years, as a secretary and trainer. Upon retirement, Maxine began her volunteer career as Director of the Minnesota State Public School Orphanage Museum, where she devoted endless hours to the State School project.

Maxine loved God, her family, antiques, decorating, gardening, and took great pride in everything she touched. She was small in stature, but large in strength, dignity, and integrity.

She is survived by her husband, Harvey Ronglien of Owatonna; son, Rob (and Deb) Ronglien of Eden Prairie; daughter, Cheryl Ronglien of Minneapolis; granddaughter, Tiffany (and Andy) Myers; 3 greatgrandchildren; brother, Norman (and Ruth) Grunklee of Red Wing; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.



Thank you, Max! by Anne Peterson

Once Maxine told me she felt God had put Harvey on this earth so the children of the Minnesota State Public School for Dependent and Neglected Children would not be forgotten. If that was the case, God certainly provided Harvey with a life partner who would help fulfill that destiny. She felt their work was

a divine calling and that was reflected in everything she did here. We thank her for her leadership, which inspired so many others in the State School and Owatonna communities to work toward creating this one-of-a-kind memorial.

We were so fortunate Maxine was able to attend Harvey's 90th birthday party on May 5. She seemed so pleased observing all the people there to celebrate. If Harvey was happy, Maxine was happy. That day she also gave Harvey a precious gift, but he didn't realize it until after she died. She wrote a note to Harvey on a napkin and tucked it in her purse for him to find later. That was Maxine—putting on the finishing touches.



1886

The Radiator Brush

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RAFFLE TICKETS



The 2017 50/50 Raffle is underway! Last year's winner received nearly \$2,000 and we're aiming to have an even bigger pot this year. The winner's name will be drawn on Saturday, September 16, at the conclusion of our Fall Celebration.

Please send your ticket stub and payment in the enclosed envelope by **Friday, September 15**, to be included in the drawing. Money raised will help keep the Museum operating.

SEPTEMBER 16 FUNDRAISING EVENT – PRIZES

Be sure and check out the enclosed flyer for details on this year's Orphanage Museum Fall Celebration. We've added some fun activities for the whole family...and a very exciting prize for the winner of the Mush-Eating Contest and the winner of the Scavenger Hunt! The Holiday Inn of Owatonna is donating a gift certificate for the winner of each event. The certificate includes a one-night suite and seven wristbands for the Serengeti Waterpark. Each is valued at \$250. Does that get your competitive juices flowing?

MEMORIAL FOR MAXINE

The Ronglien family has requested that donations made in Maxine's memory be used toward a memorial that would be uniquely hers. Since gardening was one of her passions, the Board has gotten permission from the West Hills Commission to redo a garden on the grounds and dedicate it to her. We are just getting design proposals now, but hope to have a dedication ceremony in June of 2018. The garden plot is located close to Cottage 11 and should be a visible, permanent reminder of her work for the Museum and the entire West Hills Complex.



CAROL RAETZ

We lost another person who was important to the Orphanage Museum in June. Carol Raetz, long-time Board Member, passed away on June 22, after a short illness. Carol was

the impetus to get the angel memorial added at the Children's Cemetery. She was a willing volunteer throughout the Owatonna community and we will miss her presence very much.

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DONATIONS

MEMORIALS

Mary J. McDermott *Ruth Turnmire*

Peter & Cynthia Ueland Paul & Ruth Turnmire

Mary E. Siegmann *Ruth Turnmire*

Anne Peterson *Carol Raetz*

Michael & Valerie O'Neill *Carol Raetz*

Harvey Ronglien (M) Maxine Ronglien

A complete list of donations in memory of Maxine Ronglien will be included in the next newsletter.

LEGACY TRUST

Peter Razor (H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

Donna Norling (H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

Greg & Darlene Thomas (H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

Nancy Vaillancourt (M) Maxine Ronglien

Don & Vivian Manthe (*M*) *Maxine Ronglien*

Bob Charnall (M) Maxine Ronglien

Denise Beadell (*M*) Carol Raetz

Total \$53,327.79 in Legacy Trust.

GENERAL FUND

DeLoyce Anderson

Janet Kearton (H) Her husband Gilbert Kearton

Denise McGraw

David Montz

Mary Jo Fiebiger

Harvey & Maxine Ronglien

Elde & Judy Kretlow (*H*) *Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday*

Mary Larson (H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

Ken & Sandy Dinse I(*H*) *Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday*

Kay Tillotson I(*H*) *Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday*

Naurine Lennox (H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

Corky & Al Kolander (H) Harvey Ronglien's 90th birthday

WORD OF DECEASED STATE SCHOOLER

Floyd Rand







Return Service Requested

State School

540 West Hills Circle

Nonprofit Organization **U.S. Postage Paid** Permit No. 7 Owatonna, MN 55060

SHARING YOUR STORIES

Russell Tenhoff and his older brother Marvin originally came to the State School in 1939. Russell has been back for a few visits, but this time he arrived in style-in a limosuine filled with family members. He also came prepared with some of his State School memories written down. After hearing his great stories, we asked if he would share more. Here's just one anecdote:

"One Christmas, my mother and two brothers got permission to visit. One brother gave me Tinker Toys and he'd put a pocket knife in the box, which was a no-no! The matron found out and took the knife. I watched where she put it and when she wasn't in the room, I took it. She found out and that was my introduction to the radiator brush. She would use it on your bare butt. They got rid of her and then we got an older grandmother-type person. What a difference! You could sit on her lap and you could get a hug from her."



DO YOU HAVE MEMORIES TO SHARE?

We would love to capture as many memories as we can. Don't worry about writing a great novel. Russ wrote his stories down on six legal pages. Stories and photos can be sent to the Orphanage Museum office.

State Schooler Russell Tenhoff made quite an entrance when he arrived in a family-owned limo for his June visit to the Museum.