



Mary Kay Becker

Quick Facts

Birth: October 24, 1946
Aberdeen, Washington

Death:

Occupation: Attorney; Writer

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Years served: 1975-83

Office: Representative

District: 42 (Whatcom County)

Personal:

- Born in Aberdeen, grew up at Kalaloch on Olympic Peninsula.
- Co-authored the 1974 novel "Superspill"
- Worked for VISTA Legal Services in Pittsburg.
- Worked as a legal secretary and paralegal in Bellingham
- Married, 2 children

Education:

- University of Washington Law School, J.D. with honors, 1982
- Western Washington University, B.A. in Education, 1970
- Stanford University, B.A. in English, with distinction, 1966
- Lake Quinault High School, 1962

Community Service:

- Whatcom County Natural Heritage Task Force, volunteer lawyer program board
- Citizens Overall Economic Development Program, chair

Affiliations:

Awards:

- Best New Legislator, *Seattle Argus*, 1975

Legislative & State Service:

- Legislative interests included: juvenile and adult sentencing, agriculture, environmental affairs, and budgeting for social services and institutions.

Committees:

(1975) Agriculture, vice-chair; Ecology; Social and Health Services

(1977) Agriculture; Appropriations; Institutions

(1979) Agriculture; Appropriations; Institutions, Democratic chair

(1981) Ethics, Law and Justice; Ways and Means; Human Services-Appropriations, ranking minority member

Leadership, Positions & Appointments:

- House Majority Whip, 1977
- Washington State Court of Appeals judge, Chief Judge 2002-2004
- State Task Force for Ethics and Fair Campaign Practices, 1993
- Washington State Citizens Redistricting Commission
- Western Washington University trustee, 1989-1994
- State Task Force on Gender and Justice, 1987-89
- Whatcom County Council member, 1984-85
- 2020 Commission on the Future of Higher Education, member

Sources:

- “Ex-Legislator Joins Appeals Court,” *The Seattle Times*, January 19, 1994.
- “Olympia: Not for Men Only,” by Julie Johnson, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, May 29, 1977.
- “Demo candidates have specific programs,” *Bellingham Herald*, September 11, 1974.
- *Ray Moore: An Oral History*, interviewed by Sharon Boswell, Washington State Oral History Program, Office of the Secretary of State, 1999