



# Marjorie W. Lynch

## Quick Facts

**Birth:** November 30, 1920  
London, England

**Death:** November 8, 1977  
Tacoma, WA

**Occupation:**

**Party Affiliation:** Republican

**Years served:** 1963-73

**Office:** Representative

**District:** 14 (Yakima County)

## Personal:

- Born Marjorie Ward
- Served as both an enlisted woman and commissioned officer in the Women's Auxiliary, British Royal Air Force.
- Received her Mach 2 badge when she broke the sound barrier in an F-106.
- While serving with the American Red Cross in France during World War II she met her husband, Major Edward Donald Lynch of the U.S. Allied Airborne Division, an American physician. She moved to the United States in November 1945 after they were married, and became a citizen in 1948.
- Served with American Red Cross in London and Paris as home Service worker, primarily dealing with problems related to family situations both in the USA and those of American servicemen married to English and French nationals
- Divorced, 3 daughters
- Resided in Yakima for 25 years

## Education:

- Educated in England

## Community Service:

- Served as president and chairman of many volunteer activities, especially involving health and education.
- Yakima Chamber of Commerce, chair of the Government Affairs Committee, member of the Military Affairs and Highway Committees
- American Red Cross, local chapter board member. Served as chair of Volunteers and Public Information, and assisted in organization of regional blood center.
- Foundation for the Handicapped, Seattle, founding member
- Paine Field Senior Center
- Washington State Medical Association, served as chairman of different committees and on the board
- Washington State Mental Health Association, board member
- United Good Neighbors (currently United Way of King County), head of Women's Division, and on the Board, and the Allocations Committee
- Board of Washington State Heart Association

- Region IV Planning Commission for Vocational Rehabilitation
- Foundation for Handicapped Children, vice-president
- Firls' State, American Legion Auxiliary, Speaker, 1964-1968, 1970
- Salvation Army Board, Teen House, group home for delinquent boys

**Affiliations:**

- Business and Professional Women
- Episcopal Church
- Executive Women in Government, founding member
- League of Women Voters
- Zonta

**Awards:**

- Phillips Medal, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, 1976
- Marjorie Ward Lynch Memorial Scholarship, University of Alabama
- Yakima Woman of the Year, Business and Professional Women, 1961
- Who's Who in Washington, 1963
- American Legion Auxiliary Citation for Meritorious Service, 1967
- P.T.A. Golden Acorn Award for Service to Children and Youth, 1968
- Community Leader of America, 1968
- Who's Who in Politics, 1967-1968

**Legislative & State Service:**

- Appointed December 1961 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Representative Lincoln Shropshire, she was then elected in 1962.
- Instrumental in the creation of the community college system, along with the founding of the Evergreen State College.
- Governor's Advisory Council on Mental Health and Mental Retardation
- In 1967 was the prime sponsor on bills creating the community college system and the four-year college in Thurston County

**Committees: (1963)** Medicine, Dentistry, and Drugs, vice-chair; Commerce and Economic Development; Public Institutions; Social Security and Public Assistance **(1965)** Commerce and Economic Development; Higher Education; Medicine Dentistry, and Drugs; Public Institutions and Youth Development **(1967)** Higher Education, chair; Appropriations; Public Institutions and Youth Development **(1969)** Higher Education, chair; Appropriations; Public Institutions and Youth Development **(1971)** Higher Education, chair; Appropriations; Social and Health Services

**House Bills sponsored:**

**(1963 session)**

148-Relating to metropolitan park districts

Went to first reading

257-Providing for refunds of certain college fees

Signed by Governor Rosellini

283-Defining "unable to work" in regard to unemployment compensation for pregnant women

Went to third reading

285-Removing certain unemployment compensation benefits for women

Went to first reading

289-Transferring from director of licenses to chief of state patrol responsibility for records and issuance of gun permits

Went to third reading

363-Making issuance of checks without account or sufficient deposit prima facie evidence of intent to defraud

Went to first reading

394-Authorizing state colleges to grant associate degrees in nursing

Signed by Governor Rosellini

406-Allowing wife to sue separately from husband in personal injury actions

Went to first reading

498-Requiring contributions for old age assistance from certain family members

Went to first reading

603-Establishing a children's center for research and training in mental retardation

Went to first reading

**(1963 extraordinary session)**

46-Relating to teachers' retirement system and pensions

Went to first reading

**(1965 session)**

73-Redefining park district condemnation procedure

Went to third reading

268-Extending provisional licenses for certain department of institutions personnel until July 1, 1967

Went to second reading

269-Permitting use of butter substitutes in state institutions

Went to first reading

288-Authorizing the purchase, lease, or lease with option of Harrison Memorial Hospital in Kitsap County

Signed by Governor Evans

296-Setting out department of public assistance's duties relating to child welfare

Signed by Governor Evans

322-Changing method of selection of board of trustees of statewide city employees retirement system

Went to second reading

367-Invalidating certain write-in votes and requiring political affiliation to be shown after name of write-in candidate

Went to first reading

392-Authorizing investments by cities

Signed by Governor Rosellini

432-Regulating female workday

Signed by Governor Rosellini

433-Compelling woman jury service

Went to third reading

436-Permitting women to sue alone

Went to third reading

474-Permitting use of oleomargarine in state institutions

Signed by Governor Rosellini

490-Providing for involuntary commitment of certain mentally deficient persons to state residential schools

Went to third reading

595-Relating to public institutions

Went to first reading

603-Relating to higher education

Went to second reading

647-Authorizing state participation in federal mental retardation and community mental health care programs

Signed by Governor Rosellini

693-Authorizing the department of health to provide financial assistance to community artificial kidney centers, and making an appropriation

Went to third reading

**(1967 session)**

128-Allowing children and spouses of military personnel temporarily stationed in Washington to pay resident fees at community colleges

Went to first reading

186-Adopting a supplemental budget and making appropriations

Signed by Governor Evans

194-Broadening immunity for reporting child abuse

Went to third reading

206-Providing for the attachment of fiscal notes to bills and resolutions of the legislature

Went to third reading

302-Providing for the detection and prevention of preventable heritable physical and mental disorders

Went to first reading

303-Authorizing the establishment and development of community mental health programs

Went to second reading

304-Establishing community mental retardation program

Went to second reading

355-Authorizing participation in Title VI of the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1965

Signed by Governor Evans

385-Removing limitation on amount state may pay for care of handicapped in approved training homes

Went to third reading

405-Deleting women's jury service exemption

Signed by Governor Evans

408-Authorizing certain nonprofit charitable organizations to be parental successors to the handicapped

Went to third reading  
438-Providing certain standards in erection of public buildings  
Signed by Governor Evans  
466-Providing for local health departments  
Signed by Governor Evans  
469-Providing for fallout shelter spaces in new school construction  
Went to first reading  
490-Providing for establishment of Medical Lake School for mentally deficient  
Signed by Governor Evans  
491-Authorizing the director of the department of institutions to assign mentally ill patients to state hospitals where vacancies exist  
Went to third reading  
512-Providing changes in treatment of sexual psychopaths  
Went to third reading  
518-Regulating precinct committeemen and committeewomen  
Went to first reading  
548-Creating a state system of community colleges  
Went to second reading  
**548 (Substitute)-Establishing community college districts**  
**Partially vetoed by Governor Evans**  
586-Establishing higher education commission  
Went to third reading  
**596-Establishing four year college in Thurston county**  
**Signed by Governor Evans**  
626-Providing P.U.D. support to counties  
Signed by Governor Evans  
671-Removing requirement for special examination in Washington history for certain teacher candidates  
Signed by Governor Evans  
673-Revising license fees for certain class H liquor establishments  
Went to first reading  
**716-Creating a state system of community colleges**  
**Signed by Governor Evans**  
717-Creating a state system of community colleges  
Went to first reading  
728-Requiring premarital blood tests for venereal disease  
Went to first reading  
783-Providing for a new four year college in the state  
Went to first reading  
784-Providing for a new four year college in the state  
Went to first reading  
820-Establishing terms of state college trustees  
Went to third reading  
845-Pertaining to public institutions  
Went to first reading  
847-Pertaining to public institutions  
Went to first reading  
848-Pertaining to public institutions  
Went to first reading  
854-Making provision for public higher education  
Went to first reading  
871-Relating generally to the mentally or physically deficient  
Went to first reading  
883-Pertaining to education  
Went to first reading  
886-Defining sentence and imposition of sentence in JP courts  
Went to first reading  
951-Licensing health care facilities  
Went to first reading  
952-Authorizing bond issues for the new state college in Thurston county  
Went to first reading  
976-Defining duties and providing for disposition of funds during transitional period for community college reorganization  
Signed by Governor Evans  
977-Pertaining to property taxes  
Went to first reading

**House Joint Memorials sponsored:****(1963 extraordinary session)**

4-Proposing constitutional amendment relating to apportionment and districting of legislative districts  
Passed both houses but was not signed by Governor Rosellini

**(1965 session)**

35-Memorializing the President and Labor Secretary to adjust the cutback of use of foreign farm laborers  
Went to first reading

**(1967 session)**

20-Memorializing Congress to assist the states to combat alcoholism  
Passed both houses

**House Joint Resolutions sponsored:****(1965 session)**

13-Providing for fiscal notes on appropriate bills  
Went to first reading

**(1967 session)**

24-Providing for annual regular sessions of the legislature and limiting matters to be considered at extraordinary sessions and certain regular sessions  
Went to first reading

**House Concurrent Resolutions sponsored:****(1965 session)**

14-Recommending study of bipartisan council of family support of persons living in state rehabilitation institutions  
Passed both houses

**(1967 session)**

18-Providing for a study of certain property tax exemptions  
Passed both houses

23-Requiring cooperation between the state board of education, superintendent of public instruction, and the civil defense to provide fallout shelters for schools

Went to first reading

32-Directing a study to be made as to feasibility of establishing a state program for scholarships and student loans  
Passed both houses

46-Directing the legislative budget committee to make a study of fiscal support for the state program on alcoholism  
Passed both houses

**House Floor Resolutions sponsored:****(1967 session)**

67-10-Commending Boeing Company and employees for supersonic transport achievements  
Adopted

67-52-Requesting study by legislative council of agricultural laws relating to horticulture  
Adopted

67-67-Requesting study by temporary advisory council on public higher education of senior college concept  
Adopted

67-76-Requesting legislative council to study wine industry  
Adopted

**Leadership, Positions & Appointments:**

- Chair of the Yakima County Citizens for Eisenhower, 1952
- Vice-Chair, Yakima County Central Committee, 1953-1956
- Co-Chair of the Arthur Langlie campaign for U.S. Senator, 1956
- UGN, headed women's division, 1959
- President of the State Medical Association women's auxiliary in 1959 and served on the Civil Defense Disaster Committee of the State Medical Association
- Vice-Chair of the Republican Party, early 1960s
- 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Nixon for President campaign, 1960

- Served as Northwest Regional Director of Action, the federal agency which operates domestic and overseas volunteer programs, 1971-1973. She was then nominated by President Nixon to serve as associate director for Action's Domestic and Anti-poverty Operations, 1973-1974.
- Nominated October 2, 1974 by President Ford to be Deputy Administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. This caused controversy with the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) who filed a protest with the Senate Judiciary Committee. The DAR were "incredulous that a woman of English birth" should be nominated for the position. Marjorie responded at a Senate hearing by telling lawmakers: "The tenets of American democracy are particularly cherished when you are not born to them but with deliberation and conviction adopt them for your own." After her confirmation, the DAR warmly accepted her. ("Marjorie Lynch, GOP leader, dies")
- Appointed by President Ford to be the Under Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, November 1976-March 1977
- Associate vice president for continuing education at the University of Alabama, 1977
- Executive Board, Washington State Heart Association and Chair of the Yakima Heart Association
- Education Commission of the States, commissioner
- Member of the Executive Committee, Mental Health Council of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
- According to Don Brazier....state committeewoman?

### Sources:

- "Mrs. E. Donald Lynch Appointed to Legislature," *Yakima Daily Republic*, December 14, 1961
- "Meeting the Charge Head-on," by Mike Conant, *Daily Olympian*, February 16, 1965
- "A Lawmaker with a Mach 2 Makeup—That's Mrs. Lynch," by Betty Hopper, *Daily Olympian*, January 29, 1967
- "Rep. Lynch named to U.S. post," *The Seattle Times*, December 8, 1971
- "Nixon to Nominate Seattle Woman for High U.S. Post," *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, August 22, 1973
- "Bicentennial Post for Marjorie Lynch," *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, October 3, 1974
- "She takes Bicentennial Seriously," *Everett Herald*, May 24, 1975
- "Nominations of Marjorie Ward Lynch and Harold F. Eberle," *Hearing Before the Committee on Finance, United States Senate*, November 4, 1975
- "Marjorie Lynch, GOP leader, dies," *The News Tribune*, November 9, 1977
- "Marjorie Lynch, 58, dies," *The Seattle Times*, November 9, 1977

Papers at Yakima Valley Museum

# Marjorie Lynch

**Republican**

**Appointed: 1961**  
**Served: 1961 to 1971**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Yakima**  
**14th District**

**Under Secretary of H.E.W.**  
**Appointed: 1975**

**Born:**  
**1920 — London, England**



MARJORIE LYNCH AFTER RETURNING FROM A FLIGHT IN A SUPERSONIC JET FIGHTER.  
TOP: COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



"IT IS MY CONVICTION THAT THE LAW SHOULD NOT BE INVOLVED  
IN AN INDIVIDUAL'S MORAL AND RELIGIOUS RESPONSIBILITY.  
WE AVOID INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY BY ASKING THE LAW TO  
BE OUR CONSCIENCE."

