



# Marilyn Rasmussen

## Quick Facts

**Birth:** March 10, 1939  
Seattle, Washington

**Death:**

**Occupation:** Farmer

**Party Affiliation:** Democrat

**Years served:** 1987-1993 (H)  
1993 2009 (S)

**Office:** Representative, Senator

**District:** 2 (Pierce County)

## Personal:

- She and her husband Don own and operate a 360 acre family dairy, beef and timber farm near Eatonville.
- Married, children

## Education:

- University of Washington

## Community Service:

- Eatonville School Board, 1980-87
- Marymount Association for Senior Housing, Board of Directors
- Spanaway-Parkland Kiwanis
- South Pierce County Chamber of Commerce
- Yelm Chamber of Commerce
- Eatonville Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Graham Business Association
- Southeast Pierce County Interagency Project
- Pierce County Community Action Board, Board of Directors
- South Pierce County Youth & Community Alliance
- Bethel Education Scholarship Team, B.E.S.T., Board of Directors

## Affiliations:

- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- UFCW Local 81
- Women of Vision Advisory Committee
- Washington State Dairy Federation

- American Agri-Women
- Ohop Grange
- Washington Women for the Survival of Agriculture
- Washington Cattlemen's Association
- Washington Cattlewomen's Association
- American Tree Farm System
- FFA State Fair Board, Board of Directors
- 4-H leader, 15 years
- Tacoma Sportsmen's Club
- Nisqually River Interpretive Center Foundation, Board of Directors
- Harborview Visitors' Advisory Committee
- Good Samaritan Mental Health Board, Board of Directors
- Primary Intervention Program, Board of Directors
- Our Lady of Good Counsel, Literary and Eucharistic Minister
- Delta Kappa Gamma, honorary member
- 4-H Foundation, Board Member

#### **Awards:**

- Outstanding Legislator Award, Washington State Medical Association, 2004
- Community Leadership Award, Tacoma Pierce County Chamber, 2004
- Superintendent's Superior Service Award, Bethel Schools, 2004
- NFIB Outstanding Legislator Award, 2003

#### **Legislative & State Service:**

- Governor's Prayer Breakfast Committee
- Horse Racing Commission, ex-officio member

**Committees:** (1987) Agriculture and Rural Development; Education; Trade and Economic Development (1989) Capital Facilities and Financing, vice-chair; Agriculture and Rural Development; Education; Trade and Economic Development (1991) Capital Facilities and Financing, vice-chair; Agriculture and Rural Development; Education; Trade and Economic Development (1993) Agriculture, chair; Education; Trade, Technology and Economic Development; Transportation (1995) Agriculture and Agricultural Trade and Development, chair; Education; Transportation (1997) Agriculture and Environment, ranking minority member; Education; Transportation (1999) Agriculture and Rural Economic Development, chair; Commerce, Trade, Housing and Financial Institutions; Education; Ways and Means (2001) Agriculture and International Trade, chair; Education; Labor, Commerce and Financial Institutions; Ways and Means (2003) Agriculture, ranking member; Education; Rules; Ways and Means

#### **Leadership, Positions & Appointments:**

- Vice Chair/Secretary, Democratic Caucus, 1991
- Joint Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs, Co-Chair
- National Conference of State Legislatures Agriculture & International Trade
- National Conference of State Legislatures, Commerce and Economic Development Committee
- Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation
- Commerce and Economic Development

#### **Sources:**

- "Rasmussen sworn in as new state senator," *The South Pierce County Dispatch*, January 20, 1993
- "Farm lady finds time for barn boots, high heels," by Marilyn Jones, *The News Tribune*, January 26, 1987
- "Eatonville farmer, journalist vie for Ehlers' seat," by Scott Wilson, *The News Tribune*, September 2, 1986
- *Ray Moore: An Oral History*, interviewed by Sharon Boswell, Washington State Oral History Program, Office of the Secretary of State, 1999