

Money Maberry Meritorious Service

Good food and good deeds are at the heart of Maureen (Money) Maberry's legacy to Lynden sports and the Lynden community at large. Her impact has been profound in the 60 years she has lived here since marrying Jake and moving to Whatcom County.

After graduating a year early (at the age of 16) from Stadium High School in Tacoma, where she was a cheerleader, she went on to attend UPS (then CPS-the College of Puget Sound), where she met Jake and married him three years later. The name "Money" was given to her by her younger sister, who couldn't pronounce her given name, and the new nickname stuck. Because of it, she was elected club treasurer to four different clubs at once in college. According to Maberry, "They figured with a name like Money, I must know how to keep track of it."

Football was always Money's favorite sport to watch, followed by baseball and then basketball. From an early age, she was a die-hard Dodgers' fan, and she recalls watching Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella, Sandy Koufax, Pee Wee Reese, and Duke Snider play when she was in high school. To this day, she fondly refers to them as "My Dodgers".

Jake's early career took them from Tacoma to Central Kitsap for two years and then back to his hometown of Lynden, where she raised their five children and helped run the farm. It wasn't long into her marriage that Money became "the team mom and psychologist", providing her famous cinnamon rolls for birthdays, special occasions, or for cheering up the team after they received a chewing out from Jake after a bad game. She learned early on that she better be prepared to "feed the masses" if she was going to be a coach's wife.

Indeed, her culinary talents came in to play often over the years. When she started delivering hot lunches to Jake at school, it didn't take long before his players discovered this and wanted in on the meal. According to Money, "It started out with just one extra mouth, then two, then a bunch, and before long I was spending all morning preparing lunch for the team." Their favorite meal? Pigs in a blanket—hotdogs stuffed with cheese and rolled into her homemade crescent rolls. The only problem with this system was that the "superstar" athletes made the "peasants" eat after them, allowing them a few leftover crumbs, until Money heard of this and turned the tables on them, making the superstars eat after the peasants. She now wishes she had a video of the superstars'

faces when they realized she was serious.

Along with her contributions of food, Money helped the basketball teams in other ways as well. In the early years, before Lynden hired a laundry lady, Maberry was the one who collected the team uniforms and made sure they were clean for the next game. And when Jake would give out his famous "sock awards" to deserving players, it was left to Money to make sure there was always an adequate supply.



Money also enjoyed helping at the annual Christmas Classic, which was held in Lynden for ten years. Her strawberry shortcakes were a big hit, and she especially liked meeting so many young people from all over the state. Tournament director, Ed Bomber, said, "Money was the key to our tournament hospitality. She not only helped feed the players three times a day, but she sat down with them and got to know them. She stayed in touch with several players for many years."

Along with the Christmas Classic, Money had a major role in helping her son Monte with the annual Lynden Invitational Basketball Tournament, where she also made some lifelong friends from around the state. During the first couple years of the event, Money noted that the players had to drive clear across town to Milt's in order to grab a bite to eat between games. When she questioned her son about this, his reply was, "Figure it out, Mom." So she did. For the next twenty-some years that the tournament ran, Money was the concession lady, providing her baked goods and homemade treats. Many of the referees and players from Brewster and the Seattle area came every year for the "Money Maberry goodies" as much as they came for the tournament and trophies.

Although she preferred to stay in the background, Money's influence on Lynden sports has been felt by many generations of players, and if you ask any of them if she deserves to be an inductee into the Hall of Fame, the answer would be, "Why has it taken so long?"



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