

Barbara J. Bailey - Cox

Arts



Barbara graduated from Collinwood High School in 1954. Following graduation, she married her CHS sweetheart, Jim Cox, class of 1953. She attended and graduated from the University of Akron with a degree in art education. After completing her student teaching she moved to Fort Benning, Georgia where her husband was stationed. Her teaching career was put on hold as she stayed home to raise three children.

About 23 years ago, in 1981, Barbara began teaching at elder hostels. Barbara said her greatest satisfaction is teaching others to paint. She specializes in painting with watercolors and teaching this technique to others. During her career, she was commissioned by the U.S. Department of Defense to paint an American flag draped over a rocking chair with a trumpet resting on the flag and a pair of Air Force boots next to the chair. Barbara said this painting grew from a time when she visited her son, a military flight surgeon, and saw his boots by the doorway. She also was commissioned by the White House to paint a watercolor of the White House south lawn. This was the high point of her life.

Barbara and her family moved to New Jersey when her husband, who worked for AT&T, was transferred there. Their three children and five grandchildren all live close by. In 2011, Jim passed on from Alzheimer's disease; a great loss to the family. Painting has kept Barbara going in a very positive way with her family always backing her up. She is very grateful for the start she had at CHS some 65 years ago. She acknowledged that CHS was a wonderful school with great teachers and students.







