



Mary Madeline Overlie

May 20, 1941 - March 28, 2025

Mary Madeline Overlie was born May 20, 1941 in Grafton, ND as the first of six children to her proud parents Kendall and Dorothy Simmons. Prouder yet were her grandparents, Albert & Nora Simmons as she was their first grandchild. She attended elementary and high school in Pembina, North Dakota, graduating from high school in 1959. Madeline was a high school cheerleader for the football and basketball teams. After high school she attended Mayville State Teachers College and received a two-year degree in elementary education and a BA in Art.

Madeline's first teaching experience was teaching kindergarten at Pembina Public School. In the fall of 1961, Madeline started her full time teaching career at the Little Red School House in Glendive. The following year she began teaching at Lincoln Elementary School, where she continued to teach in the same classroom for the next 33 years. During her first summers, Madeline attended Mayville to complete her BS degree in Elementary Education. She continued to take summer courses throughout her career, from instructors all over Montana and some in North Dakota. She always maintained that if she added up all of her extra credits she would've had a Master's in education. Madeline loved teaching and all of her first graders at Lincoln School, retiring from teaching in the spring of 1995. During her career, Madeline was asked and joined Theta Kappa Gamma sorority of retired teachers. She was also a member of both the Glendive Education Association and the Montana Teachers Association.

Madeline was also a member of Glendive's Zion Lutheran Church and fulfilled many roles in the church. She served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher, Chairman of the Fair Booth, Lutefisk Supper, the Wedding/Reception and funeral committees, Circle 5, and the altar guild.

After hanging up her teaching shingle, Madeline enjoyed many other roles in the community. She became a sub teacher and got a taste of teaching different grade levels. She made the comment had she known how much fun it was teaching other grade levels she might have switched to a different grade level had she been a full time teacher.

Madeline spent some time working at the Eastmont facility, formerly a residential facility in Glendive for adults with intellectual disabilities. She learned a lot while working with a whole different type of people. She maintained that after she got over the initial shock, she quite enjoyed her time there.

Madeline also had many fond memories of her friends working, laughing, and stories of her 'full-time' extremely high-paid job at The Attic. Madeline always said it was fun to go through people's stuff and that it was a real kick for friends and foes alike to find just the right thing for one another on its shelves. Madeline was married on June 7, 1964 to Karl Overlie at the Pioneer Methodist Church in Pembina. Madeline and Karl have one daughter, Mary Suzanne. In 1992, the Overlie's had a second daughter, Idunn Kjartansdottir, an exchange student from Iceland. That was a full year of learning new things. After retiring from substitute teaching, Madeline and Karl became snowbirds and bought a home in Mesa, AZ. They spent their time shopping, golfing and living the good life.

Madeline is remembered by many of her former students, parents, teachers and friends.

Madeline was preceded in death by her grandparents Albert and Nora Simmons, parents Kendall and Dorothy Simmons (Middleton) and brother-in-law Kenneth Mosolf. She is survived by her husband Karl, daughter Mary Suzanne (Pete), sister Marilyn Mosolf, Apache Junction, AZ; brother Burt

(Martha) Simmons, Lancaster, MN; Gary (Linda) Simmons, Bismarck, ND; Michael (Kathy) Simmons, Mesa, AZ; Richard (Darlene) Simmons, Pembina, ND; sister-in-law Anna Knapp of Billings, MT; and brother-in-law Fritz Overlie of Kalispell, MT and several nieces and nephews.

Services for Madeline will be held on Thursday, April 3rd @ 1 pm at Ellsworth Springs Clubhouse, 652 S Ellsworth Rd, Mesa, Arizona.

A Memorial Service will be held on Monday, June 30, 2025 at 11:00 AM at the Zion Lutheran Church in Glendive with Pastor Avis Anderson officiating. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to The Greater Glendive Community Foundation. Memorial funds will be used to develop more murals around Glendive, to keep Madeline's artsy flair alive for generations to come.

Greater Glendive Community Foundation, Box 1122, GLENDIVE, MT 59330

Remembrances and condolences can be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **30**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Zion Lutheran Church
401 Riverview Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall

AB

“ Alice Bachmeier lit a candle in memory of Mary Overlie



Alice Bachmeier - June 29, 2025 at 07:59 PM



“ My deepest condolences to her family and all who love and miss her. Mrs. Overlie was my first grade teacher back in 1964. How I loved to be chosen to hold her hand out at recess! She was also my sister Sherri's first grade teacher two years later. She did the kindest thing for Sherri and myself when that year my mother got word of her mother's death. They had lost touch after moving all over the world once they all escaped from the war. Anyway, my mom was very distraught so Mrs. Overlie took us two girls home with her, fed us dinner, had us bathe and let us spend the night. She got us up and ready for school the next morning and took us with her to school that day. I never forgot that kindness and knew it was beyond what most teachers would have done. We moved to Ft. Leavenworth Kansas after that year but I always wanted to find Mrs. Overlie again and thank her. I finally did and we wrote back and forth for a while, but my sister had already passed away from cancer. I treasure those conversations and it warms my heart to know that I was able to let her know how much that meant to two little girls. We're not sure who took care of our younger siblings that night but they were not in school yet so it was probably another neighbor. I know there are many wonderful stories that people will share while remembering her. Mrs. Overlie, once again, thank you for being so kind to my sister and me; I will never forget you. Rest in peace.

Darlene McCluskey - June 29, 2025 at 07:04 PM

HS

“ *Helen Bjerkreim Schmitz lit a candle in memory of Mary Overlie*



Helen Bjerkreim Schmitz - June 26, 2025 at 08:39 PM

CB

I worked with her at attic. She was real nice person

Clarce barth - June 27, 2025 at 06:56 PM

SB

“ *RIP Mrs. Overlie-Stacey Bowlds*



Stacey Bowlds - June 25, 2025 at 09:25 PM

PD

“ *I was one of her first, first grade students at the Little Red School House in the Heights. I remember loving school and loving her as a teacher.*

Patty Morasko Diegel

Patty Diegel - June 25, 2025 at 07:43 PM

CJ

“ *Karl & Family: Sorry to read of Madeline's passing. May God comfort and bless you in your time of sorrow.*

Curtis Johnson

Curtis Johnson - June 18, 2025 at 03:18 PM

CS

“ Mrs Overlie,
You were always one of my favorite teachers. Although I hated how you nicknamed me "Chissyfur" I grew to actually like it over time. Any time in my life anybody called .e tgat it always made me think of you. For years anytime I saw you I always got a hug even as a grown man. I believe I will miss those hugs as much as I miss my grandmother's hugs. You were a wonderful teacher and a truly remarkable person. God bless you and your family

Christopher Schreiber - April 22, 2025 at 01:54 PM

KA

“ Kymberley Allen lit a candle in memory of
Mary Overlie



Kymberley Allen - April 16, 2025 at 04:01 PM

NK

“ Karl and Susie you are in my thoughts.



NANCY KORB - April 04, 2025 at 08:47 PM

SM

“ So sorry to hear of Madeline’s passing. My mother, Lois Lye, taught with Madeline at Lincoln School for many years and thought the world of her. She was a kind, vivacious lady who I am sure will be sorely missed.

Sheri Lye Moline - April 04, 2025 at 06:31 PM

BS

“ *Bob & Kristie Stanhope lit a candle in memory of Mary Overlie*



Bob & Kristie Stanhope - April 01, 2025 at 05:10 PM

CH

“ *Carol Chouinard Hanson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Overlie*



Carol Chouinard Hanson - April 01, 2025 at 12:02 AM

MG

“ *There are way too many memories to share just one. She was loved by many and will be missed deeply. My heart broke to hear of her passing. Prayers to everyone.*

Maria Geiger - March 31, 2025 at 09:29 PM

KT

“ *So sorry for your loss. What a wonderful person she was*



Kim Trejo - March 31, 2025 at 02:48 PM

AR

“ *Andeen Raymond lit a candle in memory of Mary Overlie*



Andeen Raymond - March 31, 2025 at 12:44 PM

WM

“ *So Sorry for your loss, she was a wonderful teacher and neighbor.*

Walter McKeen - March 29, 2025 at 09:56 AM