

# **Alterra Resident Profile**

Alterra Wynwood Assisted Living of McMinnville, OR

## **Audry Prindle**

Audry was born Audry Maurine Shirley in Burlington, Kansas on October 16, 1909. At the time, her father was a farmer. Her mother didn't like farming because there was no money in it so the family moved to Oregon and Washington for a number of years coming home to Kansas only when a baby was born. The extended family always helped with a new baby. Audry's father decided to become a butcher, and from that time on, he had a butcher shop where he did all facets of the business from marketing to selling.

The family lived in the state of Washington when Audry started school. In the fourth grade Audrey became interested in music and decided singing would be her main interest. Throughout her school years she sang as the lead in high school operettas and as alto lead in a quartet her junior and senior years. The family moved to Corvallis, Oregon at the start of Audry's high school years. After graduating from high school, Audry enrolled at Oregon State University where she majored in music. At the end of her junior year she transferred to the University of Washington. She graduated from UW in 1933 with a degree in Public School Music. While at UW Audry was a soloist for the faculty music concerts held monthly. The School of Education adopted her as their lead singer for all special events. After graduating, Audry taught music (band, orchestra, chorus) for three years. While teaching she started directing church choirs.

She married her high school sweetheart, Harold Prindle, in 1937 in Corvallis, Oregon. Harold was going to Oregon State University. Audry took a job for two years at Corvallis Junior High teaching music and English and then went back to get her Masters in Education from OSU. She received her degree in 1944. Audry became supervisor of grade school music in Corvallis, which included writing the curriculum for five grade schools. Harold graduated from OSU and took a job with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a crop reporter in Portland, Oregon. While in Portland, Audry, who was working in education and still active in her music career, sang on radio station KOIN with a small group called "Music in the Park".

Harold was then called into the service. He went to Camp Lee in Petersburg, VA. Audry drove from Portland to Virginia the last week in February thinking Harold might be sent overseas. Instead he went through Officer Candidate School and was stationed in Washington, DC for four years. During this time Harold rapidly went from Lieutenant to Captain and was assigned to the post of fuel distribution with the Army.

During their time in Washington Audry and Harold went to various churches trying to decide which one to attend on a regular basis. They finally decided on the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in downtown Washington, the same church attended by Abraham Lincoln. A book entitled "A Man Called Peter" was written about their pastor, Peter Marshall.

When the war ended, instead of going back to Portland, the Dept. of Agriculture requested Harold be assigned to St. Paul, Minnesota for the next six years. Their three children were born there. Their daughter Lynne was born in 1951, and the twins, Barry and Brian, were born in 1955. Even though Audry's children grew up participating in her choirs along with their father, they never pursued careers in music. The family did more traveling with Lynne staying in Washington, DC, where she married her high school sweetheart; the boys both marrying Boise girls and settling with their families here in Boise; and Harold and Audry settling in a retirement community, "Salem towne" in Salem, Oregon, for close to 20 years.

Harold died in 1995 and Audry moved to Alterra in October 1998. Audry had an outstanding career in music in both paid and non-paid positions. She was lead soloist with numerous choir groups, lead alto singer with several quartets, was featured with groups performing on radio programs, was also singer with a mixed quartet for a radio program known as "As The Wheels Turn", was a member of a national concert club (a real honor because only professionals were invited to be members), and she was a member of the music honorary chapter of MU PHI EPSILON. Music was Audry's passion and she was an exceptional talent.