



Meet Virginia Munroe Forrest

Soon after my birth in Brighton, Massachusetts my parents moved to Saco, Maine. Growing up in Southern Maine in the 40's and the 50's was a wonderful time. Many hours were spent outside exploring nature with the neighborhood children or at the local beaches. At school, I made good friends that remain part of my life to this day.

My college days at Gorham State Teachers College were filled with new challenges and expanded my horizons. The college was beginning to take the steps at

that time to eventually become part of the University of Maine system. New buildings were going up and additional curriculum was added as plans moved forward.

After graduating, I moved to Belmont, Massachusetts. I got a teaching assignment in Bedford where I taught Fifth grade. That was exciting year. I felt that I had been well prepared for the career I had chosen.

During that Christmas vacation, Dick and I eloped in a New England blizzard. We lived in Belmont for two more years.

Our son was born during that time. I took time out from teaching and our daughter came along two years later.

My husband's career took us to Connecticut. Our home was in the town of Granby. Dick worked near by at Combustion Engineering. When Maine Yankee Atomic was in the planning stages, we began to think our dream of coming to Maine might become reality. During his years at Maine Maritime Academy, he had learned to appreciate all that the Maine coast had to offer a young family.

In 1970, we moved to Wiscasset. Our children were 5 and 7. I started to think about getting back into the classroom. I got a job in the recently built Wiscasset Primary School teaching third grade. I stayed in that position for 24 years.

After retirement, I began to volunteer at the Maine Art Gallery on Warren Street. This worked into a seasonal job for about 5 years. That time at the gallery inspired me to develop my own love of creating art. My lessons with Jan Kilburn became my passion. All these years later, I still love the planning the process and watching it all come together. My husband learned to mat and frame to help complete the task.

I volunteer at two galleries, our library and other organizations that support our town. My life is full and I love it!

Virginia with husband Richard

