

Noreen (Saltveit) McGraw

(March 7, 1932 – May 31, 2021)

None of us who encountered Noreen (then) Saltveit in the 1980's, when she was practicing workers' compensation law, are likely to have forgotten her bright spirit and boundless energy. By then, she had already broken new ground, with the first federal class action lawsuit (*Moreno v. Tankersley*, 1970) on behalf of migrant farmworkers. She then established Oregon's first public interest law firm with Marmeduke, Aschenbrenner and Merten, and filed several class action lawsuits on behalf of minorities and women. She rounded out her career in the law performing alternative dispute resolution work from the 1990s until she retired in 2012.

Noreen made a lasting impact wherever she went. She was the first woman lawyer to receive the Multnomah Bar Association's Professionalism Award (1995), and was the first woman in a law firm to be awarded the Oregon State Bar's prestigious Award of Merit (1995). In 1999 Noreen was honored by the Workers' Compensation bar with the Section's Douglas W. Daughtry Professionalism Award (now known as the Professionalism Award).

As noted in the August/September issue of the *Oregon State Bar Bulletin* (from which most of the above details are borrowed), Noreen Kelly (Saltveit) McGraw "was known as a loving mother, a compassionate friend, a fearless trial lawyer and a life-long, devout Catholic." She is survived by four children and five grandchildren. Along with all of them, we will miss her.