Betty Roberts

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Photograph Index

Compiled by Jo Rice

01	Betty Roberts at age three, 1926 Born in 1923 in Arkansas City, Kansas. Moved to Wichita Falls, Texas at age 5 after her father lost the use of his arms and legs and became permanently disabled as a result of drinking bootleg liquor during prohibition.
02	Pearl Cantrell with three children, 1927 Her mother, who had only a high school education, became the sole provider for their family of five. (Betty is pictured in the lower left.)
03	Cantrell Family on porch, 1927 Father Murray, Mother Pearl, Sister Mary, and Brother Bob. Betty is on her mother's lap.
04	Bob, Betty, and Mary on porch, 1927

		Pearl Cantrell with Betty and Mary, 1930s
05		By now the Depression had set in. Her mother took in washing which she did on a scrub board and then boiled in a tub over a fire in the backyard. While this provided food for the family, she had no utilities, except water, and little money for clothes. As soon as Roosevelt's New Deal programs started, her mother worked in a WPA sewing room.
		Betty Roberts in Texas, 1930s
06		In Texas: Depression era and tom-boy days in the 1930's.
		Betty Roberts, 1941
07		Betty graduated from high school in 1939 and went to Texas Wesleyan College in Fort Worth for one year where she worked in a department store to pay her tuition and expenses.
	-	Betty Roberts with Bill Rice, 1942
08		In 1942 Betty married a soldier from Oregon, Bill Rice.
		Betty Roberts with children, 1953
09		After World War II, Betty and Bill moved to Oregon and had four children. Said Betty, "According to Betty Friedan, many women were restless and dissatisfied in the 1950s. So was I."

		College graduation, 1958
10		She returned to college at Eastern Oregon College for one year. Then graduated from Portland State College in 1958 with a degree in Education at age 35.
11		Betty Roberts with David Douglas, 1966 Betty taught high school, and as a single parent, started night law school at Northwestern School of Law in 1962 when her oldest daughter started at Stanford University and the other three children were in middle school and high school.
12		Betty Roberts on House floor, 1967 In 1964 she won election for State Representative where she served while completing law school. Between biennial legislative sessions, Betty continued to teach high school. In 1966 Betty received her law degree as one of two women in her graduating class.
13	<image/>	Betty Roberts on Senate floor, 1969 In 1968 she won a seat in the State Senate. Pictured here on the Senate floor in 1969. Among the legislative work she is noted for is passage of Oregon's first legalized right to abortion, consumer protection legislation, Oregon's path-breaking environmental and land use legislation, including Oregon's bottle bill. She was a leader in women's rights issues of the 1970s and advocated for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in Oregon and elsewhere in the West.

14		Betty Roberts and Keith Skelton, 1978 In 1968 Betty marries lawyer and state representative Keith Skelton and combined their families.
15		The Roberts-Skelton clan in front of the State Capitol, 1971
16	ROCONTROL ROCONTROCONTROL ROCONTROL ROCONTROL ROCONTROL ROCONTROL ROCONTROL	Betty Roberts campaign leaflet Governor, 1974
17		Betty Roberts and unidentified man, 1974 Campaigning for Governor in 1974.

18	Betty Roberts in her law office, 1974
19	Betty Roberts debates Bob Packwood, 1974 Former US Senator Wayne Morse's death after the 1974 Democratic primary created a vacancy to which Betty was appointed by the Democratic Party. In this picture, Betty is shown debating US Senator Bob Packwood.
20	Betty Roberts with Bella Abzug, 1974 Campaigning for US Senate with Congresswoman Bella Abzug [1995 Margaret Brent Award winner].
21	Betty Roberts with Lloyd Bentsen, 1974 Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas campaigning with Betty in her race for US Senate. Although it was a close race, Bob Packwood was re-elected.

	Betty Roberts teaching a class, 1975
22	1975: Back in the classroom as a college professor in political science and business law
23	Betty Roberts, 1977 Back at the Legislature
24	Betty Roberts with Governor Bob Straub and judges, 1977 In 1977, the first woman appointed to the Oregon Court of Appeals, Judge Roberts is shown here with Governor Bob Straub and other new appointees to the Oregon Court of Appeals.
25	Betty Roberts with Kathleen Bogan, 1977 Shown here at the Oregon Court of Appeals with her law clerk Kathleen Bogan.
26	Betty Roberts with Governor Vic Atiyeh, 1982 Here she thanks Governor Victor Atiyeh for appointing her to the Oregon Supreme Court.

27		Betty Roberts with Arno Denecke, 1982 Justice Roberts being sworn in as the first woman on the Oregon Supreme Court, February 1982.
28	HIGH DECORATIONS	<i>The Oregonian</i> , December 19, 1981
29		Betty Roberts with Jean Lewis and Helen Frye, 1982 Following her swearing in, Justice Roberts with Jean Lewis, Oregon's first woman circuit court judge, and with Helen Frye, Oregon's first federal district court judge.
30		Betty Roberts with Mercedes Diez, 1982 Same day, Justice Roberts with Judge Mercedes Deiz, Oregon's first woman judge of color.
31		Oregon Supreme Court justices, 1982 Justice Roberts takes her place on the Oregon Supreme Court.

32	Supractine Course	Betty Roberts, 1984 Justice Roberts at the Oregon Supreme Court.
33		Betty Roberts at University of Oregon, 1984 While on the Supreme Court, Justice Roberts was the recipient of many awards. Shown here receiving the University of Oregon Distinguished Service Award.
34		Betty Roberts in her office, 2006 After taking Senior Judge status, Judge Roberts began a new and satisfying career in mediation and arbitration.
35	HOROKING HEROES JUSTICE	Betty Roberts at St. Johns Parade, 2002 Judge Roberts appears at a local parade during Marilyn Litzenberger's successful campaign for the Multnomah County bench.
36		Betty Roberts playing golf, 2002 Never afraid to take a shot from a difficult spot, even when golfing.

		Betty Roberts officiates a wedding, 2004 March
37		Making international headlines, in March 2004 same-sex marriage was legalized in Multnomah County. Judge Roberts is shown here performing Oregon's first same-sex marriage ceremonies.
		Betty Roberts officiates a wedding, 2004 March
38		Making international headlines, in March 2004 same-sex marriage was legalized in Multnomah County. Judge Roberts is shown here performing Oregon's first same-sex marriage ceremonies.
	CHI WART A NIGHT	Brochure for "Oh What a Night," 2004 March
39	<image/> <image/> <section-header><section-header><image/><text><text><text></text></text></text></section-header></section-header>	The Oregon Historical Society presents a program honoring the accomplishments of women in the historic 1970s State Legislature. A panel discussion with Norma Paulus, Gretchen Kafoury, Vera Katz and Betty Roberts focusing on their roles in eliminating sex discrimination in Oregon statutes, supporting the ERA, and promoting childcare and women's health issues.
		Betty Roberts with Kristine Olson, 2004 May
40		Judge Roberts receives the E.B. MacNaughton award from Kristine Olson, first woman US Attorney in Oregon, on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon, for her work on behalf of reproductive freedom, women's rights, freedom of expression and civil rights based on sexual orientation.
	-	Betty Roberts with Ann Aiken, 2005 March
41		US District Court Judge, Ann Aiken, recipient of the Justice Betty Roberts Award, which is given annually to an individual who advances women in the law. Judge Aiken had been mentored by Judge Roberts since her student days when she first saw her advocating for women's rights in the Oregon Senate.

42		Betty Roberts with unidentified woman, 2006 Judge Roberts continues her mediation, and is currently working with attorneys on school funding litigation.
43		Betty Roberts, 2006 2006 ABA Margaret Brent Award recipient (Honolulu Hawaii)
44	Toolsee Toolsee	Betty Roberts, 2006 Receiving Margaret Brent Award
45		Betty Roberts with unidentified woman, 2006 Receiving Margaret Brent Award
46	EXTERIOR TRANSPORT	Betty Roberts with Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, 2006 Margaret Brent Award (At right is Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Keynote Speaker)

	Betty Roberts with children, 2006
47	From left: Randy Rice, Dian Odell, Jo Rice, and John Rice)
48	Betty Roberts, 2005 She spends time with her extended family including 5 great grandchildren, and is nearing completion of her memoir, tentatively entitled, "With Grit and By Grace: The Unconventional Life of a 20 th Century Woman."
49	Betty Roberts, circa 2005 A formal portrait of Betty Roberts.
50	Betty Roberts, 2006 December