

2025 Alice Magaw Outstanding Clinical Practitioner Award
Mayme Bailey, CRNA

Mayme Bailey, as a professional, fittingly begins with the words of C. Richard Bennett, D.D.S., Ph.D. Professor and Chairman Department of Anesthesiology upon Mayme's July 1994 retirement. In part Bennett wrote:

Dear Mayme, please accept my sincere congratulations on your retirement. It is hard to believe that twenty-eight years of friendship, collegiality and professional association went by so quickly.

Your skills, dedication and outstanding professionalism was well recognized by all. Your unique personality and talents are certain to be missed by all. I am particularly indebted to you for not only the respect you exhibited toward the Dental Anesthesia Residents but also for your contributions to their advancements. It is an honor and privilege to have known and worked with you during your entire career. If there is a Hall-of-Fame for outstanding contributors to the field of anesthesiology in Pittsburgh, you are certain to, one day, take your rightful place in it beside Leonard Monheim.

Mayme Bailey's life-story begins with her 1930 birth in Marion, AL; arrival in New Kensington, PA in 1937, entering New York City's Harlem School of Nursing in 1949 and graduation in 1952. In 1953 Mayme returned to Pittsburgh for duties at Veterans Hospital until joining the staff of Shadyside Hospital in 1956.

Mayme was accepted by the University of Pittsburgh's anesthesia program in 1964. Post graduation in 1966 she worked with and was influenced by doctors Peter Saffer, Stephen Galla and the aforementioned Dr. Leonard Monheim.

Highlights include working with Dr. Thomas Starzel the famed liver transplant specialist; Mayme had Pirate outfielder Willie Stargell as a patient and he made a bet that she could not put him out, he won the World Series but lost the bet, she was appointed Chief Anesthetist along the way and helped people that were hungry for her knowledge, experience and especially her effortless kindness.

Mayme said she'd do it all over again, to strive for the career that she richly enjoyed. It allowed her to serve others and in part because of the fine people that she met and enjoyed as professionals on the clock and as friends off the clock.

Kind thanks to Rhonda Bueche, Kelly McCohen and others from Mayme Bailey a most grateful awardee.