



Carol Lee Rianhard

DEC 10, 1932 - JAN 17, 2025



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
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Carol Lee (Jo) Rianhard passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family in San Diego. Born on December 10, 1932, in Oakland, California, she was the cherished only child of Hank Jory, originally from Sutter Creek, CA, and Gwen Goldsmith of Los Angeles.

Jo was among the first in her family to pursue higher education. She graduated from Stanford University with a double major in Political Science and History and later graduated from the Harvard-Radcliffe Program in Business Administration, a landmark initiative that paved the way for gender equality in business and academia. Jo's intellect and charm shone during her early career at the Sheraton Corporation in Boston, where she also became a member of the Advertising Club.

It was in Boston that Jo met the love of her life, Davis Rianhard, on a blind double date. Although their story began with Jo charming another gentleman, it was Davis, then a Navy officer-in-training in Newport, Rhode Island, who ultimately won her heart. They married in 1957, embarking on a life of adventure together. Their journey together took them to Chile, Ecuador, and Colombia before they made Mexico City their home.

In Mexico City, Jo became a dedicated community leader. She actively served on the Board of the American School Foundation and was a proud member of the Junior League, reflecting her passion for service and connection.

Jo's greatest joy was her family. She raised four children-Carl, Gwen, James, and Greg-with boundless love, instilling in them her values of kindness, curiosity, and resilience. She was a devoted and delighted grandmother to Alan, Stephanie, Karin, Blair, Brinley, Daniel, and Samantha, each of whom enriched her life immeasurably.

Beyond her family, Jo's vibrant spirit was evident in her many passions. She adored horses and was a member of the Crestmont Stables drill team at Mills College. She enjoyed playing tennis



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and was an enthusiastic traveler. Paris held a special place in her heart, as did the game of bridge and her cherished friendships, which she maintained across the globe. Jo also developed deep roots and loving friendships at the family home in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware and in Playa Blanca, Mexico. Always deeply reflective, she often spoke of her "wonderful, fortunate life," filled with adventure, meaning, and love.

Jo leaves behind a legacy of grace, warmth, and generosity that will continue to inspire all who knew her. Her memory will be honored at a future date in Rehoboth Beach and in Mexico City.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Carol by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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