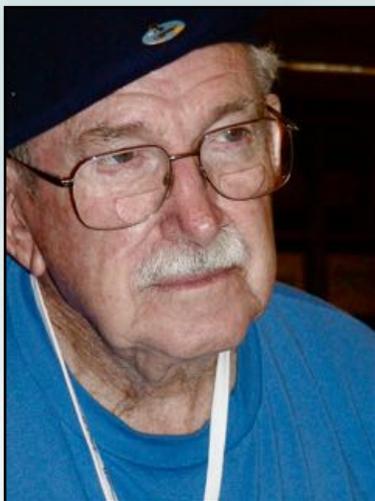




*Remembering  
SfC members  
who are no  
longer with us*

## *Lefty Fontenrose* June 8, 1921 - September 28, 2014



Marsha and I enjoyed a long friendship with Lefty Fontenrose. Lefty and I had an especially close friendship, as we were both "lefties." He and I spent many times together sharing information and techniques on our left-handed approach to calligraphy. I learned a lot from him. - *Larry Brady*.

I am fortunate to have known Lefty since 1984, when I met his daughter Christi (my wife). In so many ways, Lefty was a tough act to follow. To put it bluntly, he raised the bar for what it means not just to be a good man, but to be a human being. Besides being a man of wonderful creative talent, Lefty was a man of deep humility, kindness, generosity and loyalty - in a word, he was a man of integrity. He had a sharp sense of humor that was always tempered by the fundamental gentleness of his soul. Never, in all the time I knew him, did I ever hear of him speak an ill word about anyone, not even as a joke. And I know that, now that he's gone, there's not a person, living or dead, who could or would say a bad word about him. Any time anyone was in need of his artistic

talents, he would drop whatever he was doing to help, seeing the job through to its conclusion, no matter how long it took. And, given the perfectionist he was, that could be quite a while. I couldn't even begin to enumerate such examples of his kindness and generosity. But to Lefty, such events were no big deal. It was all in a day's work of being Lefty. - *Ray LaCoste*.

Lefty and I shared the same birthday and I always teased him and called him my "twin brother." We exchanged cards and phone calls. I miss him. - *Barbara Close*.

Lefty had this special gift of seeing things in a very different way. He always amazed me at how fast he came up with ambigrams for so many people. He would do them as a simple gift to them. I told him on occasion that that was what was keeping his brain active. - *Louis Lemoine*.

Lefty was such an interesting man. He loved to write words backwards and/or upside down! And, even though he was left handed, he was able to do that perfectly and always very artistically. I will always remember that he made me a special standing rack to hold my addressed envelopes so they would dry without smudging (when I was a freelance calligrapher in years past). We were all sad to lose him. - *Liz Lucas*.

Lefty had a unique way of looking at things ... backwards. He was a very generous and kind teacher and was always happy to do an inversion for you. - *Carrie Imai*.

When I think of Lefty, the word "delighted" flashes across my mind screen. He seemed to be delighted in living every moment of every day. He always had a smile on his face and a chuckle in his throat. I first remember him at our calligraphy retreats at La Casa de Maria. He would come in his camper with his dog and sporting a red beret. - *Janet Martorello*.

*Pat Topping* July 20, 1924 - September 28, 2014



*Photo © Herb West*

One can't think of Pat Topping without the visual of Pat driving around Eagle Rock in the "Old Jeepster." I picked Pat up often to attend Nancy Campbell's wonderful pot luck parties. She was such an inspiration to many. - *Diana O'Brand*.

I first knew of Pat Topping as one of the calligraphers who created beautiful certificates for the County of Los Angeles. Donald Jackson admired how she could just sit down and create a perfect layout without having to make many trials. I imagine that came from a lot of training, a lot of doing, and a way of looking at the elements of a layout as textures and shades of density. I think of her as a straight-forward, no-nonsense, practical person. She chose a design for her wedding ring that had a stone which was smooth on the surface and wouldn't get caught on anything. She designed the original logo for SfC. I remember her being very pleasant, very approachable and enjoying stories that brought laughter. - *Janet Martorello*.

Pat was a very talented lady. I knew her through my membership in the SfC and always enjoyed talking with her at meetings. We used to meet at the Department of Water and Power in Los Angeles. It was close to where she worked as a calligrapher for the County of Los Angeles. I have one of her originals hanging in my home. - *Liz Lucas*.

## *Lisa Engelbrecht* August 28, 1955 - November 10, 2014

Lisa Engelbrecht ... my teacher, my friend, my inspiration, my love ... she will be greatly missed. Lisa monitored my Sequence class at Letters California Style in February 2014. She used every minute for creating, for helping the class, and for making the conference successful. - *Yukimi Annand*.

Lisa encouraged all of us to be the best, most confident, most risk-taking artists we could be. Her talent was formidable and unique. Her ability to inspire people and to put them at ease was like a flowing river of positive energy. She was the most generous person in my life. - *C.C. Sadler*.

Lisa was such a kind, generous soul. She was a bright light in our calligraphic community. She gave of herself as a teacher and a friend. - *Carrie Imai*.



There will never be another soul like Lisa Engelbrecht! I had the gift of knowing her for over 25 years. The time I spent with Lisa was magical. Her classes were always full of heartfelt soul from her love of life. I learned much from this special friend. Having her stay at our home on the river was a gift that will live on in my heart. Lisa was a jewel. - *Diana O'Brand*.

Everyone who had the opportunity to study with Lisa experienced her creative genius and her willingness to share her calligraphic gifts. Lisa will be missed by all whose lives she has touched, but she will not be forgotten by any of us. - *Marsha and Larry Brady*.

I have such fine memories of Lisa, from her instant smile and readiness to do anything to help anyone within her reach to her assumption that anyone could make letters, watercolor flowers, books .. really anything ... and convince them to work through their fear, regardless of their background! Lisa had supreme confidence in every person she met. In her teaching, she accepted everyone for where they were at that moment and took them from that point forward. Lisa had such a following of people from all walks of life, and they influenced her in the way she used and shared her many talents. - *Debbie Powell*.

I met Lisa the night she walked into the beginning calligraphy class that I taught through California State University Extension Services. She was an art student on campus but, since there were no calligraphy classes being offered for art majors at the time, she decided to enroll through the Extension Program. Lisa was an excellent student and she was interested in everything she could learn about calligraphy. I guess I would have to say that she was a "stand-out student" and she completed the calligraphy certificate program with honors. I eventually turned over some of my classes to her to teach. Everyone who knew her recognized her unusual abilities to make calligraphy her own art form. - *Liz Lucas*.

Lisa designed the Society for Calligraphy logo, the logo for the Discoveries conference in San Diego, and guild banners for the Society for Calligraphy and the Orange County Society for Calligraphy. Her book, *Modern Mark Making* will continue to inspire calligraphers for many years to come. - *Joan Bechtel*.

## *Jean Marie Seaton* May 11, 1922 - February 19, 2015

Jean Marie Seaton visited La Casa de Maria several times when I was there. She was sharing her book that she had completed and the beautiful box which encased it (of course, Dick Pio must have been her teacher). This was a stunning example of outstanding work and love. You could see a beautiful soul within her eyes and gracious ways. - *Lynn Smith-Weld*.

Jean Marie was a dear friend with whom I exchanged teaching and learning. I taught her calligraphy and she taught me paper marbling. She taught paper arts from her Santa Barbara home and she led the Santa Barbara Calligraphy Guild for many years. Her books are stunning. She was a treasure who will be missed. - *Carrie Imai*.

Jean Marie lived in Santa Barbara and we were both members of the local chapter of SfC. We studied marbling together and she went on to become an expert in the art, producing some extraordinarily beautiful pieces. For a time, we each taught marbling classes, enjoying the process. Our teaching methods were very different. Jean Marie, with her meticulous hand and eye that gave such beautiful marbled works, showed her students all of the techniques that could be applied. I'm afraid I wasn't so thorough. But, then, I also didn't accomplish what Jean Marie did in that field. I remember Jean Marie with great fondness and admiration, and I wish I had more of her marbled work. - *Mary Dresser*.

Jean Marie was a wonderful, mild-mannered woman who was very serious in her studies and her work. When she took workshops that required her to stay overnight at a hotel, she stayed a couple of days extra so she could complete her notes and exercises and compile them into a hand-bound book for future reference. She taught classes in calligraphy and marbling and used beautiful pieces for Christmas cards, which were always appreciated. She was so in love with marbling that she decided to create two beautifully bound volumes with original pieces donated by noted marbling artists and made beautiful boxes to protect them. I believe they are now in the collections of libraries. She made a charming hand-written and illustrated book about her life with her husband. As her energy waned, she continued her work, recognizing that her productive hours had to honor her body. - *Janet Martorello*.

Jean Marie would often visit us at the retreat and share what she was working on - her book making, calligraphy and marbling. I remember when she opened up her new studio in Santa Barbara for us to see her work. I have a wonderful memory of her at a conference. It was a paper cutting class we had together with Christopher Calderhead. We all visited in the evenings and had fun. Jean would work in her room and come in with a magnificent project the next day. She was such a hard worker and so creative. - *Sylvia Kowal*.



## *JoEllen Moline* July 27, 1933 - November 8, 2015



*In the photo, JoEllen Moline is the one wearing the crown.*

JoEllen Moline will be remembered as an active and long-time member of the Society for Calligraphy, a former editor of the Bulletin, and a bright and fun-loving presence. Although she went unexpectedly and quickly, she did it her way and went out in a blaze of fireworks!

*- C.C. Sadler.*

JoEllen was in my first Text and Texture class at Letters California Style in 2012. She was so happy with her exercises, and she said "I love this class" with her excitement. She was a wonderful artist and a free spirit! - *Yukimi Annand.*

Meeting JoEllen over the years, she always had a smile and was very gracious to "newbies." It was always a joy to see and chat with her. Her face beamed when she would show the wonderful work both she and her young students would do. Her rubber stamps were awesome. - *Lynn Smith-Weld.*

JoEllen was a dear person who gave many years of her life chasing people for articles and then putting them together for the SFC Bulletin. Her art was as quirky as she was, and I loved her art and her. - *Carrie Imai.*

JoEllen was a very creative lady who loved wacky humor and had a zany way of looking at life. She would collect pieces from the funny paper to include in our Bulletins and in her annual family letter. She took classes in formal calligraphy, loved using a brush, but came into her own when she was creating structures that fit free-form, made-up words, often based on sounds or free association. She loved playing with small pieces of paper and tiny spaces and carved her own unique rubber stamps, all of which were fed by her excellent skills as a dental hygienist. The masthead for our Bulletin was designed by her. She cared enough about her creations that she didn't want to hand off anything that could be edited without her input. She wrote what became the logotype for Oakwood Apartments without knowing it would be used for that. Black-and-white photography was a love for her and another avenue for her creativity. The absence of her unique personality is notable. - *Janet Martorello.*

When I lived in Santa Barbara and was more active in the Society for Calligraphy, I came to know JoEllen as part of our Studio Group. She was a delightfully sweet person, talented in a style of artwork other than calligraphy. A memento she gave me still hangs from the lamp over my drafting table - a crocheted angel whom I call Sweetie. There's also JoEllen's fine calligraphy. I was able to participate in various joint projects of our Studio Group and consequently have several pieces of her work in my library. I remember her with love and admiration. - *Mary Dresser.*

*Harry Dougherty* September 22, 1926 - October 6, 2013

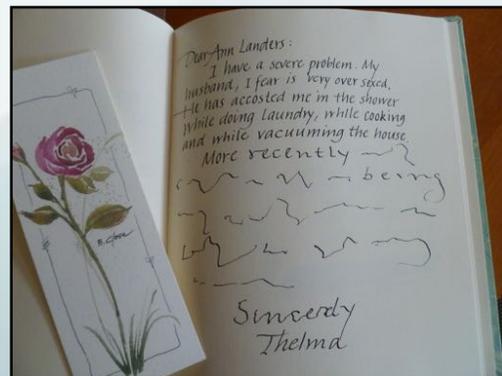


Harry was a true character. He had his own way of doing things, and I always enjoyed him. I have several hand-written letters and hand-calligraphed envelopes from him. Who does that anymore? - *Carrie Imai*.

Harry had a wonderful mind. He was one of the most intelligent people I've ever met. He was chairman of the School of Dentistry at USC, he had his own orthodontics practice, and he had four inventions to his name. He was given a Mercedes by his department

he retired because they loved him so much. He traveled to France and Japan as a guest lecturer, speaking their languages fluently. He loved telling humorous stories of his travels, laughing with eyes twinkling. A good storyteller was he. One morning at breakfast in a restaurant, he picked up a packet of powdered non-dairy creamer, read the ingredients, and declared that it was glue! I've never used it since that moment. - *Janet Martorello*.

Harry Dougherty always made me laugh. He was one man who always had a welcome smile, hug, and not a snooty bone in his body. (Yes, some were quite snooty!!!) This was Harry's contribution to a book from 1992 at La Casa de Maria. All attending put it together with the guidance of Kitty Maryatt. I miss his Christmas letters. I've saved them all. He was always so kind to me. - *Diana O'Brand*.



## *Vi Solis* September 13, 1923 - June 2, 2013

Vi Solis supported the SfC for many years, participating in many workshops and lectures. Sweet Vi ... she always had a smile on her face and a kind word. - *Carrie Imai*.

Vi was the Energy Bunny ... I loved her. - *Diana O'Brand*.

Vi was a sweet lady. She was a skier for many years, made super guacamole, enjoyed life, and was a good friend! - *Rosie Petro*.

I remember Vi as a woman who loved life and loved adventure. She was excited to join hikes in foreign lands. She enjoyed the "active" part of activities. I didn't know her well, but I remember her being a very 'up' and positive person, always smiling and making the best of whatever challenges life presented to her. - *Janet Martorello*.

Vi served as treasurer for Solar Nibs for a number of years, right up to the time she got ill and stopped coming to meetings. She was a member of Barbara Close's class at ABC for many years. Vi brought avocados from her tree to share with the class every year and often made them into everybody's favorite dip (with plenty of chips)! She was an active member of a local ski club and enjoyed going on their yearly ski trips. She was probably one of their oldest skiers. Another one of her passions was going to the Greek festivals all around Los Angeles and joining in the dancing. She made friends everywhere she went. You would see her at almost every calligraphic event, helping or just supporting it with her attendance. She was always well dressed, with beautiful jewelry. She was a world traveler and had a long career working for Union Pacific. She was always friendly, cared about how you were, and had a bright smile on her face. - *Linda Renner*.

Vi was a free spirit who enjoyed her calligraphy instruction. I admired her greatly for her skiing trips to places like Park City - not for the fearful! We often talked about making tamales; I wish I had learned from her how to make them. - *Mary Dee Tebbetts*.

Vi was such a wonderful person to know. I have so many fond images and memories of times we would meet on Wednesday mornings in Barbara Close's class. She sat in the back row with the "regulars" and was creative and skilled. She was dedicated to doing all the projects and still had a steady hand. She would tell so many stories about her skiing adventures and her plans of walking the Great Wall of China (sadly, that trip did not happen). - *Sylvia Kowal*.



*Helen Penacchio* October 9, 1929 - December 10, 2013

Helen Penacchio was a long-time member of Solar Nibs and a member of Barbara Close's class. Pointed pen was one of her favorite styles of writing and she always produced beautiful projects. Louie Lemoine is a favorite long-time speaker at Solar Nibs meetings and he generously made a special card for each of us whenever he came. Helen collected his cards and framed them all together and showed them to Louie. She lived in Seal Beach with her husband, who passed away a few years before she did. They enjoyed traveling, especially to Hawaii, and she calligraphed memory books of their travels. She was always cheerful and friendly, looked like she had just stepped out of the beauty shop, and enjoyed life with her family and friends. Her passing was sudden and unexpected, and a loss to all who knew her. Her family generously gave her calligraphic tools, paper and books to Solar Nibs and their sale benefited our group. - *Linda Renner*.



Helen always made me think of a little bird. She made excellent calligraphy, yet wasn't sure she did. I especially remember her ballooning adventure in New Mexico to celebrate her 88th birthday. She also enjoyed trips with a club to which she belonged. - *Mary Dee Tebbetts*.

Helen was one of my calligraphy students at the ABC Adult School. We had many good times as she learned her skills. She participated in a quilt that my students gave me for my retirement in June 1991. It was a joy to work with her. She was always willing to give extra effort. She will be missed. - *Shirley Holland*.

*Link Mathewson* March 18, 1932 - February 10, 2014



Link Mathewson was a very dear lady. She was elegant, graceful and always cheerful whenever I saw her. She loved Copperplate and she referred jobs to me when she had some extras. She was a quiet person, but she had another circle of friends other than calligraphers. She was a national platform diver and competed in seven National Championships and two Olympic trials. She was also a flight attendant for TWA.  
- *Barbara Close.*

Link drove all the way from Newport Beach, where she lived, to take private lessons from me in my home in Long Beach. She was an excellent student and she absolutely fell in love with Copperplate calligraphy! She became so proficient at it that she started a little business in the Newport Beach area for wealthy clients' parties and events. Link lived in a beautiful home on an island waterfront. She became a close friend and she often invited me and my husband to attend lavish dinner parties in her home. She was a gourmet cook and connoisseur of fine wines. She led a very active life in the high society of the Newport Beach area and even wrote articles for *Orange County* magazine. She was a sweet, kind and generous lady and was a star in every way. - *Liz Lucas.*

I remember the first time I met Link - it was at Letters California Style in Kristin Doty's class. Kristin would have us walk around and see what the other students were doing. Link's Copperplate lettering and sketch book caught my eye, as well as the other classmates'. We asked if she would allow us to take a few photos of pages in her journal. Link was humble ... she said yes, but she thought everyone else's work was much better than hers. Link's Copperplate lettering inspired me to begin taking classes to learn that lettering form. I miss her sweet and gentle spirit. - *Chris Ewen.*

# Mary Ann David July 10, 1947 - July 16, 2014

Mary Ann David was a yearly presence at Letters California Style, from the beginning. She was a great ambassador for us and talked about Letters everywhere she went, which was a lot of places! Also, she was at the international conference every year ... and that is where a lot of our members knew her. It's no accident that her initials were MAD. She was a madcap, energetic, fascinating person. A quote from her official obituary says: "Mary Ann practiced friendship as if it were an artform." Her decades-long impact on the calligraphic world was as much from her ability to bring people together as it was from her art. She introduced people to each other - and they would become lifelong friends. She had a laser-like focus on details about you that she would remember years later, and she would use that information to connect you with others. Her infectious enthusiasm kept people at ease and increased peoples' confidence. She wasn't able to attend Letters California Style in 2014 but came up for the morning with her sister just to visit us and give out little Valentine mementos. She looked at me hard in the eye as we talked, and later I realized that she knew it was the last time she would see me. There are many voids in my life from friends passing in the last few years. Mary Ann's passing leaves a hole in my life - in Portland, in Palm Springs, at Letters, and in the calligraphic world. - C.C. Sadler.



Mary Ann's light going out leaves the world a little less bright.  
She had a joy for living and a love of people. The last time  
I saw her, she handed me a small card that said,  
"Wishing you great joy in your life." - Carrie Imai.



I was a very good friend of Mary Ann's, and I miss her every day. Just recently, I did a small piece of art in Mary Ann's honor. I used a favorite word of hers - "woozy" - and used the paintbox I inherited from her. I adore that paintbox! I take it to workshops and I always tell everyone, "This is Mary Ann's paintbox." Isn't it funny how simple things can become so meaningful? - Carol DuBosch.

## *Margaret Spiess* December 13, 1943 - August 8, 2016



Margaret was my only sibling, four years my senior. I am sure her seniority had much to do with her tendency to herd me along, and my lifelong tendency to follow her lead. We had widely varying interests. I was the mathematical one; she was the artist and the instigator. She led me to join activities and visit places that enriched my life - museums, yoga, concerts, restaurants, and many events. Her friends became part of my widening circle of friends. Sisters share a special bond that far surpasses personalities and life choices. We had a shared understanding of how our parents and grandparents shaped our deepest souls in unspoken ways. This is the special bond of sisterhood that I now carry alone.  
- *Carina Lister.*

What a “blessing” it was to sit next to Margaret in Pamela Paulsrud’s workshop. During a break, we were chatting about design and I mentioned Sam Maloof, from her area, and how much I admired his work. Margaret replied that she was a docent at his home and garden tours. She proceeded to give me a large “info card” regarding the tours, signed with her name and contact information. Lovely writing and lovely thoughts from a lovely person! A treasured memory of Margaret is her wonderful e-mail address: “wisdombites.” - *Lynn Smith-Weld.*

Some of my memories of Margaret are of her driving down the mountain from Running Springs to attend Orange County and SfC workshops, and sharing the photos she took of the flora and fauna in her area. Margaret enjoyed working on altered books and many different calligraphy hands. She was in her favorite element when attending SfC events. We will miss Margaret’s smile and enthusiasm. - *Chris Ewen.*

Loyalty and passion—Margaret’s trademarks. I remember her loyalty to each of her friends and to her family. She was a loyal SfC member and she was passionate about anything to which she devoted herself. She was my most loyal student in the UC Riverside extension classes. She introduced her friends to those and to SfC’s Inland Empire/Pomona Valley programs. She brought new members to SfC. Margaret and I met in 2011, while I was still SfC’s workshop coordinator. She lived in Arrow-Bear and commuted as far as needed to attend our events, often to Santa Monica or to the San Fernando Valley. I invited her to stay with me and to carpool to a two-weeknight class in Westwood, since the traffic was certain to be unbearable. A couple of years later, she joined our round-robin altered book exchange, where six calligraphers met every other month at one another’s houses to view the pages we had decorated, to linger over a potluck lunch, and to enjoy each other’s company. Margaret’s book was garden-themed and I borrowed it after the exchange was over and added two more page spreads. She and I met at the Riverside Mission Inn to pass the book and to enjoy lunch together. Margaret was anxious to join another exchange but, alas, she was gone before we started our current journal round robin. Margaret used to send me photos from her regular hikes. She met the love of her life, Howard Weiss, on one of the Sierra Club mountain hikes. She volunteered for the Blue Jay Mountain Thrift Store, which provided funds to nine non-profits. She was a docent for the Sam Maloof Foundation, which inspired me to take my husband to tour the house in Alta Loma. (Continued at

*Kevin Mary Hannigan Fuller* 8/18/1935 - 11/29/2016



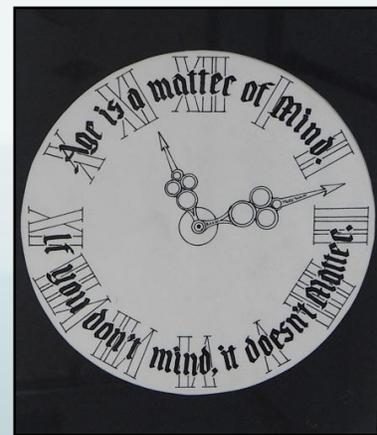
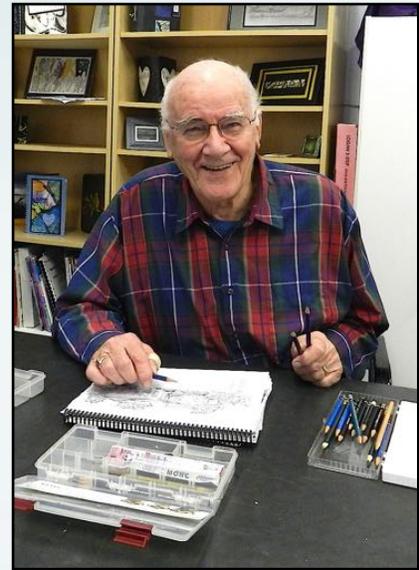
Kevin Mary Hannigan Fuller was born in Chicago and was bestowed the name of 'Kevin' in memory of a young uncle who died of pneumonia at age five. She left us with reminders of her faith, generosity, heart, and soul in each and every piece of treasured calligraphic art she created, in every angel medallion she shared, and in every life she touched - whether for a moment or for a lifetime. It has long been said that she always left everyone she knew 'better off' for having met her, and it is true: we are all better people for having known the gift of her kind heart, unconditional love, and glorious smile. - *Brian Hannigan (her son)*.

Kevin Mary Hannigan was my first calligraphy teacher. This was in the early 1980s, when we both lived in the Laguna Hills area of Southern California. The class was through Parks and Recreation and was my introduction to the art of calligraphy. She had a liveliness and sense of humor that became catching to her students. Always positive, we learned to laugh at our mistakes and yet try to improve our letterforms. I will forever be thankful for the influence Kevin had on me. She encouraged me to pursue my interest in the lettering arts by taking the classes taught by Marsha Brady at Cerritos College. I got to know Kevin personally, and we always kept up with each other, even after my husband and I (plus two daughters) moved to Los Gatos, in the Bay Area. I loved receiving Kevin's Christmas cards. Her artwork was an inspiration. We visited each other whenever we could through the years. How I miss my dear friend, Kevin. I'm so glad our paths crossed so many years ago. - *Martha Reich*.

# *Hans van der Werff* April 29, 1929 - June 26, 2016

Hans van der Werff was born and raised in the Netherlands. He lived through World War II, and when his village was liberated by Canadians, he knew he wanted to become a Canadian. In 1955, at the age of 24, he came across the ocean by himself to his new country. Hans' interest in calligraphy began with a simple goal: to make 'fancy' labels for the wine he loved to make. When he discovered that a calligraphy guild was within an hour's drive from where he lived, he became a member and he participated in the workshops they offered. In 2008, Carrie Imai came to the Warmland Guild and Hans registered for her workshop. An unexpected diagnosis of colon cancer had him undergoing surgery at the time of her workshop, so he asked me to take his place and "take notes." When Carrie learned that Hans was in hospital, she sent him a piece of her artwork and a note encouraging him to go to Letters California Style someday. It took a few years, but in 2001 he went to the conference and his new wife went with him ... me. We both quickly became Letters California Style "fans." Teachers like Barbara Close and Carol DuBosch expanded Hans' awareness of how calligraphy could bring a new creative dimension to his art and he became active in several envelope exchanges over the years, enjoying a new avenue for his lettering skills. His Galleria pieces often had a 'fun' twist to them, reflecting his gentle and ebullient sense of humour. He was looking forward to participating in Letters California Style 2017 but, sadly, an unexpected diagnosis of esophageal cancer that rapidly grew made it impossible for him to be there in person. However, thanks to the kind and thoughtful inclusion of his artwork and biography on the memorial table at the conference, he was there in spirit.

- June Maffin



Art by Hans van der Werff  
[www.soulistry.com/hans](http://www.soulistry.com/hans)

## *Charles Stevenson* September 5, 1930 - July 22, 2017



Charles and Lily Stevenson have attended almost every Letters California Style conference since its beginning. Charles was the ultimate gentleman, watching out for Lily with love. He was kind, sweet and gentle, and he will be deeply missed by many - and certainly by those in the calligraphic community whom he touched. - *Carrie Imai*.

I am so sad. I love them both so much. - *DeAnn Singh*.

Such sad news. I spent some special time with them while they were in Yosemite a couple of years ago. Lily was in my class that week through the Yosemite Conservancy Art Center program. One afternoon we drove up to the lookout area to see the colorful "bloom" that happens at Bridalveil Fall for just a few minutes a day around 3 p.m., only in mid-spring. Bless that sweet couple! - *Carolyn Fitz*.

Charles was a dear soul. He adored and assisted his lovely wife, Lily, with her love of all things. Charles will be missed! My life was enriched by knowing Charles. We have all lost someone special. - *Chris Ewen*.

I met Charles and Lily at Island Magic in 2007, as well as in subsequent years. Lily and I were in Victoria Pittman's class and every morning (other than our excursion day), I would walk past "Lake Omar" and take photos. I photographed what I thought were very overweight mallard ducks and shared my photo with Charles. He told me they were Canadian geese. I have always considered him a true gentleman and will miss hearing about him. - *Mary Dee Tebbetts*.

Charles was a treasure. Every year I thought it was wonderful they were still able to attend Letters and be so active. They ran circles around me! He was always a gentleman. I will miss him. - *Karin Gable*.

I have known Charles and Lily for many years and always enjoyed his company. He was a force in the computer world from its infancy to all the intricacies of now. Charles and Lily traveled together to most of the international calligraphy conferences, as did I, and Charles and Lily faithfully attended Letters California Style since its inception. Charles was a good friend and contributed much to the calligraphic world. He will be sorely missed. Farewell, Charles. - *Carla Tenret*.

Charles was a bright spot - always greeting me at Letters and at the Yosemite retreat. I enjoyed chatting with him as he roamed at Letters while Lily attended classes. - *Kristi Darwick*.

With Charles' passing, a beautiful, joyous, gentle, talented, kind, loving soul has left our planet. I always loved seeing him and Lily together. They were an incredible example of the way a marriage can work with each supporting the other with love and good humor. They were a truly inspiring team and I'm grateful to have known Charles and also for witnessing how beautifully he and Lily worked together. I know Lily has 62+ years of wonderful memories of their life together. - *Kaarina Tienhaara*.

I will always remember Charles fondly as a gentle and kind man and a wonderful presence at the conferences. - *Diane von Arx*.

Sweet, sweet Charles. For the 40+ years I have known him and Lily, he has always had a smile and a kind comment for everyone, and a twinkle in his eye. He will be missed by all who ever knew him. - *Adrienne Keats*.

*Etchie Mura* October 7, 1943 - August 26, 2017



Etchie was my boss for 20 some years. We stayed in touch during her retirement. On and off she would invite some of us to her home for a lunch or dinner ... she was a great cook!!! Or we would go out for a quick luncheon at a restaurant and catch up. She moved to Portland (or just outside of Portland), where she spent her remaining years. We pretty much lost touch by then and would only talk if she happened to come to town and drop by the office. I hadn't heard from her in quite some time and had tried to call a couple of times but there was no answer. Then I heard that she was ill and had been hospitalized. I figured she would be out shortly and would then get in touch, but she passed.

- Jeff Redford

Dear Etchie ... she was always feeding everybody - she was a great cook. She catered and hosted one of SFC's Annual General Meetings. She was my "boss" for the time I worked at L.A. County's Calligraphy Office. She was a great boss - no micro-managing, just a good mentor. She was a kick - very independent - she ran a catering business by herself and supported herself. She had a great home in the Crenshaw heritage district. - Carrie Imai



This scroll was done by Janeen Marrin and Jeff Redford.

*Brenda Broadbent* November 11, 1950 - November 18, 2017



This fall, the world of calligraphy and I lost a wonderful and dear friend, a talented calligrapher, artist and long-time owner of Paper & Ink Arts. Brenda owned the mail order company for 30 years and brought her “store” to all the international calligraphy conferences around the country - twice to California.

She introduced us to new art materials, books, tools, etc., also shown in her yearly catalogue, which she designed herself, and spotlighted art done by artists around the country, always giving them credit. At conferences, she demonstrated the new materials and made them available for others to try before buying them. She knew her art supplies so well that she could answer questions by phone or in person at conferences to help others get the most from any art material, be it paint, ink, pens, brushes or paper. She taught mini classes at our Letters California Style conference and brought art supplies to Barbara Close’s classes for people who did not have the opportunity to go to the store. Solar Nibs benefited from her many artistic ideas with numerous “Brenda workshops” following the Letters conference, before she flew home to Maryland. Many of us have Brenda’s book about the parallel pen and its many uses. She was often excited to meet someone in person whom she already knew as a phone customer.

Brenda sold her company about three years ago to a family in Tennessee, who now carry on the business and continue to bring it to our Letters conference each year. Jennifer Allen readily gives Brenda high marks for her support in the transfer of the business.

Brenda’s beautiful spirit and her cheerful, warm, friendly personality made her popular and loved by everyone she met. She will live in our memories as one of those bright stars who left us all better for knowing her, but also sad in her passing. I miss you, Brenda.

- Linda Renner

*Carolyn Bremer* October 28, 1957 - September 2, 2018

Carolyn had been dealing with a rare autoimmune disease, Dermatomyositis. This disease has a lot of rare underlying issues. Losing Carolyn leaves a gaping hole in the world. She was one of the kindest, most generous, most intelligent and talented people. She will be greatly missed by so many. Our family is devastated and in shock, but we are together. Carolyn would have wanted us to process our feelings, laugh a lot, and pull together. - *Lianne Bremer, Carolyn's sister*



Carolyn Bremer was vital, enthusiastic, positive, encouraging, and a force of nature. We often spoke about the personal challenges of working in higher education, and how both of our institutions (Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach) impacted our community. - *C.C. Sadler*

I liked Carolyn. She came to my Solar Nibs talk in 2017 and I found out that she collected fountain pens. - *Louie Lemoine*



Carolyn was so kind to me and tried to relax me because I was a little bit nervous at the Solar Nibs meeting with Louie Lemoine. She told me that she had suffered from some disease, but she was so bright, pleasant and positive. I came to know that she was a music professor at CSULB after we became Facebook friends. - *Hewon Juhng*

Carolyn was a very sweet person. I'm glad I had the chance to meet and talk to her during Letters California Style and at workshops. - *Syeda Ullah*

Carolyn was always such a pleasant person to be around. - *Barbara Close*

## *Sharon Schuber* July 25, 1943 - February 20, 2019



A true California girl, Sharon was born in Downey and met her husband of 54 years at Downey High School - sweethearts from day one. They went on to have two daughters. Sharon was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother - driving a million miles to school, dance practice, piano lessons and more - always with a smile on her face. She contributed her creativity, smarts and heart to many organizations throughout her lifetime. In addition to all her community contributions, she was also a nurturing friend. She loved life through her long-standing friendships and a network of community connections.

She was a creative spirit, always expressing herself through her calligraphy, needlework, painting, knitting and making candy. She was an entertainer extraordinaire. One of her biggest joys was traveling the world with her husband and friends. The biggest trip was their most recent to Paris with the entire family, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Sharon's greatest pride and joy was her family, especially her grandchildren. She lived a bold, creative, adventurous, fun-filled life. - *Amy Schuber (her daughter)*

I met Sharon over 35 years ago, first through needlepoint, when she was president of our guild in Huntington Beach, and then taking calligraphy classes together over the years. She will be truly missed not only by me, but by all who knew and loved her. The wonderful memories we have of dear Sharon are so precious, and her bright light lives on in all of us. She always signed off with "Loves Ya ... Sharon." We Loves Ya, too .... - *Jannie Benz*

Sharon left us all too soon. She was the epitome of celebrating joy and love. Sharon was always up for an adventure, planning them for friends and family, never forgetting a holiday or a chance to celebrate. She had that sparkle when she entered a room and was such a good storyteller. There is such a void with her being gone. She was a champion in the field of needlework and knitting and was determined to master the calligraphic art of the pointed pen. She was so proud of her family and was a good and loyal friend. Sharon was one of a kind and is sorely missed. - *Linda O'Neill*



***Photo of Sharon (center) with Shirley Rudkin and Sylvia Kowal at IAMPETH in Phoenix in 2011 (photo from Kathy Sanchez).***

*Renée Troy* February 26, 1947 to June 7, 2019

Renée Troy was an amazing calligrapher and artist. Her creativity soared with every job she took on and with every piece of art she created. Art was her passion and she was incredibly prolific throughout her life.

She had so many creative endeavors - designing children's clothes, painting, doll making, handmade jewelry and, finally, making her dream of owning an art gallery come true with The Word is Art.

Renée brought talent, whimsy, spirituality and heart to everything she did. She was loving, caring, compassionate, fun and funny, adventurous and brave. I feel honored to have called her my friend. I miss her enormously but know her spirit is still here with us.

- Lisa Holtzman

Energetic, creative, quirky, loving and giving are words that come to mind when I think of Renée. She was a student and friend of mine. She had more stamina than 10 people and had the guts to open her own shop where many of her friends (me included) displayed their art. I am saddened by the thought that she is no longer with us. She will be missed by many.

- Carrie Imai



I met Renée in 2013 when I visited the Word is Art in Culver City. Her gallery was beautifully set up with displays of gorgeous gourds, stunning jewelry, adorable dolls, colorful paintings and Renée's amazing artist books. Renée was charming and gracious ... I am so glad I had an opportunity to meet her.

- Joan Bechtel



## *Linda Goralski* April 19, 1948 - July 30, 2019

Linda was a bright light at our Letters California Style conferences. She attended for many years. She always volunteered to be our raffle ticket seller and took it seriously. She wore funny head pieces so she wouldn't be missed and did a bang-up job for us. She always had a smile on her face and joy in her heart. She will be sadly missed. - *Carrie Imai*

Linda was our shining star. We are devastated that we have lost her. She was our Program Chairman and did many of our programs. - *Nancy Sampson, Fabulous Las Vegas Scribes*

Linda volunteered at Letters to be a raffle ticket seller and was one of the BEST. Her cheerfulness and good spirits surrounded her and rubbed off on anyone who knew her. She was quite the lady and I shall miss her. - *Carol Hicks*



I've known her for many years but haven't seen her often since she moved to Nevada. She was my "go to" lady for Gocco supplies, and I introduced my friend Cathie Hulme from England to her. We had a great visit in her home in Seal Beach. That was at the time of the Discoveries Conference in San Diego. Cathie came to stay with me, then we went to the fabulous conference together. Cathie was happy, as she took home lots of Gocco goodies. Linda and I usually saw each other at calligraphy events and conferences. She will be missed by the calligraphy community. - *Margaret Konjevod*

Whenever Linda and I had a class together at Letters, she always brought a smile to my face. She was so generous and caring. I would have candies or a goodie from her sitting on my table every day. I still have the plastic Crystal Light drink containers she shared with us to put our pens and pencils inside, all cleaned and ready to use. I will miss her and her smile very much. - *Dorothy Yuki*



My greatest memory of Linda (besides selling raffle tickets) is her love of hedgehogs, which she developed from her time living in England. I would regularly send her hedgehog cards from England, particularly of Beatrix Potter's Mrs. Tiggy Winkle. So this photo of her with Linda Renner's Sophie captures her love of hedgehogs and life. - *Trish Malin*

We met a long time ago at some calligraphy meeting and became good friends. We were roommates at the first Letters conference. When I brought the first Sophie hedgehog to Letters, she was her biggest fan and I learned that she had collected little hedgehogs for years. She always brought Sophie special presents each year when we met at Letters. Everyone at Letters and other calligraphy meetings loved Linda's big smile and warm, friendly personality. She was one of the raffle ticket sellers for many of the conferences, always promising hers were the winning tickets, and wearing something bobbing around on her head. I know Linda was ill for many years, but she was cheerful, positive, and a friend I will remember with love and admiration. - *Linda Renner*

Linda was such a sweetie, and I loved having her in my class at Letters! We had so much fun in this class! My sympathy to her family and all of you who were her family, too. - *Julie Gray*

I had the pleasure of meeting Linda fourteen years ago at the very first Letters California Style conference. She was selling raffle tickets and had a headband with chili peppers swaying on springs. We became instant friends, due to our love of laughing, being silly and our love of bookbinding. For several years, I became her rival ticket seller at the LCS conferences. Each year, Linda and I would try to out do the previous year's headband decorations. Linda loved her dachshund, Frankie, and would often post pictures of him. Linda also had a group of friends who shared her love of rubber stamp greeting card art. She would come to California twice a year, just to go to the Carson Conference Center for the rubber stamp convention. About a dozen of us would meet at the Soup Plantation for lunch. I will miss Linda's smiles and the friendship we shared. - *Chris Ewen*

# *Nobuko Kitamura* January 14, 1926 - September 2, 2019



Nobuko and I had become good friends over the years. She was a long-time at my ABC Adult Ed class. Her work was such an inspiration. I will miss going to visit with her after class. She was still pretty sharp and could recall lots of events.  
- *Barbara Close*

I remember Nobuko with great joy! Her talent was inspirational, as was her kind, sweet spirit. Her example of remaining active with her talent was a challenge and an example to us. - *Karen Gideon*

I was privileged to sit next to Nobuko in my early years of taking Barbara Close's calligraphy classes in Cerritos. She was a quiet, kind, intelligent, witty and supremely talented woman. I thought her projects were the definition of lettering and design perfection, and I was in such awe of her depth of graphic design knowledge. It was obvious that the calligraphy community was a bright spot in her life. I always looked forward to sitting near her in class and adding—quietly—to the happy buzz in the classroom! - *Debbie Powell*

Nobuko was an amazing talent. Her Roman letters, in particular, were beautiful: graceful, expressive, leaning toward perfection ... with that ineffable spark of the human hand shining through. However, over the years, our conversations often centered around graphic design applications such as Photoshop and Illustrator. She was an early adopter and mastered these high-end applications quickly and easily. I was always amazed at her formidable intellect, considering how shy and unassuming she seemed. - *C.C. Sadler*

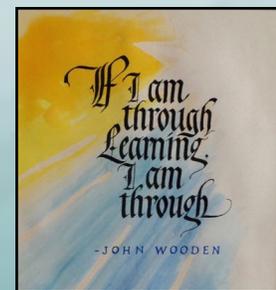
I am very sorry to hear the sad news about Nobuko. She was a very talented and skillful calligrapher who worked at the City of Los Angeles calligraphy department. She was a very quiet person and underplayed her position and expertise. She was bright, cheerful and hard-working and I, for one of many friends, will greatly miss her. - *Nancy Ouchida-Howells*

Nobuko had a long history with the Society for Calligraphy. In fact, she was one of the founding members! I first met her when I started attending Solar Nibs meetings in the late '70s. When Solar Nibs started having workshops, Nobuko always participated, doing meticulous work that was beautifully designed. We learned that she was employed by TRW as a designer. She always entered her art in the Society exhibits. Her writing, in any hand, was always flawless. She was a student in Barbara Close's class at ABC for many years and she often attended Society workshops. She was a dedicated student and continued coming to class, after she was unable to drive, by having her caregiver bring her, and she continued her beautiful writing. She had many friends who will long remember her and her beautiful calligraphy.  
- *Linda Renner*

This is Nobuko's piece. She was so proud of having attended UCLA during the John Wooden era, 1967-1977. I remember talking to her about this piece and how excited she got about watching Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in person. Nobuko was a very interesting lady. - *Kathy Sanchez*

Nobuko was a very talented and sweet woman. She always had a smile for each and every one of us. She will be greatly missed. - *Elizabeth Lucas*

This is sad news about Nobuko. I will miss her. She was a bright light for many.  
- *Louie Lemoine*



Nobuko was a master of letters and illustrations. I have her "Alphabet is a Source" and cherish this piece. Her attention to detail is evident in all of her work. She would work quietly and turn out astonishing work. - *Sylvia Kowal*

## *Allan Cameron* August 14, 1927 - January 18, 2020



Allan Cameron was one of the founding members of the Society for Calligraphy. He was born in Chicago. At age seven, he moved to his parents' hometown, Motherwell, Scotland, where he got an old-fashioned classical education.

He spent four years as an intelligence specialist with the U.S. Air Force in England, France and Germany, supporting the Berlin airlift. He returned to the U.S. to earn degrees in art at the University of Wisconsin and the Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles. Allan first worked in art studios and agencies doing advertising design, then as an art dealer with the Cowie Galleries. He earned a teaching credential at Cal State Los Angeles and worked as an art teacher at Bancroft Junior High School and Fairfax High School. He was the founding director of the Fairfax Visual Arts Magnet Center.

Allan served on the Getty Museum Educational Advisory Committee and was a facilitator at the opening of the Getty Center in Brentwood. He painted, drew and sculpted in acrylic, wood, metal and digital media. Allan told a lot of stories about calligraphy. He had done a lot of lettering jobs, often for prestigious events. He even made a wedding certificate in Hebrew.

Allan was amused by his participation in the movie *Amistad*, where he played the hands of Anthony Hopkins writing on a document. He loved his experience on the set. Allan also produced community TV programs for several years, connecting him with additional creative pursuits. He was particularly fond of creating playful poems with accompanying caricatures as gifts to friends.

Allan was an athletic golfer and tennis player and was an instructor for Dale Carnegie Training and Arthur Murray Dance Studios. He was interested in communicating with everyone and described himself as a "foreign language junkie." He studied Italian, French, Greek, German, Spanish and Latin, and learned phrases in Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Tagalog, Farsi, Hungarian, Hebrew, Gaelic, Welsh, Portuguese and Finnish. - *Dick Heiser*

I remember Allan well. He was a funny, very talented friend who was fun to be with. My notes as secretary at the beginning of the SFC probably have comments about what he did for our newsletters and announcements. He would draw funny little monks and many other amusing things for the bulletins. - *Nancy Campbell*

He was a really great guy, always smiling and jolly. - *Janet Martorello*

# *Dawn Miyashiro* July 15, 1946 to March 14, 2021



We all have known Dawn for her kind and generous nature. She was always our “money collector” and when Solar Nibs needed a treasurer, I asked Dawn to take over and she agreed. She kept neat, accurate records. Dawn was also a faithful Letters California Style participant and valuable volunteer. She organized the bags of pre-ordered supplies and then helped with registration. With her warm sense of humor, caring manner, and thoughtfulness, Dawn made friends wherever she went. Dawn will be missed by everyone who knew her, and she will be long remembered as a special friend. - *Linda Renner*

She was one of the sweetest people in the calligraphy world, always volunteering at our annual Letters conference, and in general a great human. I will miss you, Dawn! Bon voyage on your trip to the other side. - *Karin Gable*

Dawn was a lovely, generous person who was always willing to participate in SfC activities. It's members like Dawn who keep the wheels of our Society going strong. She was always willing to help and showed up at most activities. She will surely be missed. - *DeAnn Singh*

The first time I met Dawn was at a Solar Nibs meeting several years ago. She was very easy to get to know and talk to. On several occasions, we sat together at meetings and workshops for Solar Nibs and OCSfC and chatted. She had a wonderful dry sense of humor. - *Pat Bennett*

Life is so fragile. You just think people will last forever. Dawn was my little maraschino cherry (our private joke). I'm going to miss her very much. - *Carol Hicks*

Words cannot express my sadness. Dawn was one of the nicest people and was always there to help everybody. An angel—an angel now in heaven. - *Jenny Allen*

Dawn was such a friendly, positive, helpful and genuinely happy person. I loved seeing her at Letters. - *Debbie Powell*

Dawn was always good natured, ready to volunteer to help, and prepared to take financial duties when a class or large group wanted to place an order for something. We will all be better people for having known her. - *Marilyn Carlson*

Dawn was an unassuming artist. She was gracious and so good at doing registration for Solar Nibs. She made people feel welcome. She was interested in you and your art. I will miss her happy smile and sweet voice. - *Mina Taylor*

Dawn was such a wonderful person to see at the Letters conference. She was there at the reception desk with a smile to greet us when we arrived early in the morning. She was the “face” of Letters, which started our day with a sense of joy. - *Steve Husting*

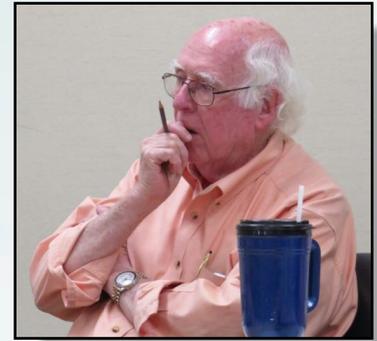
Dawn was a kind, gentle soul who graced our calligraphy class at the ABC Adult School. She was the first to volunteer when we needed a helping hand and was always pleasant and cheering everyone on. We've had many wonderful memories. - *Barbara Close*

The one thing I will remember about Dawn is her sense of calm: how she was always there to help, and how just her calm, presence and excellent organizational skills were an incredible asset to us at our events. She was a funny, optimistic, beautiful soul who loved being part of our community. - *C.C. Sadler*

## *Marion Moon* April 4, 1934 - March 22, 2021

Marion Moon was a wonderful calligrapher with so much information about so many different subjects. It was always a joy to sit next to him during OCSfC meetings. - Chris Ewen

I sat near Marion at a few workshops. He was always so full of knowledge and wit. I appreciated his contributions to our creative journey, A long time ago, men were more rare in calligraphy workshops. He was one of the brave ones!  
- Celeste Wong



I always looked forward to seeing Marion at meetings, sitting next to him when possible. I loved his inventive mind, all of the tools he designed for bookbinding, and his pleasant jovialness. We shared a love of Edward Gorey's work. - Janet Martorello

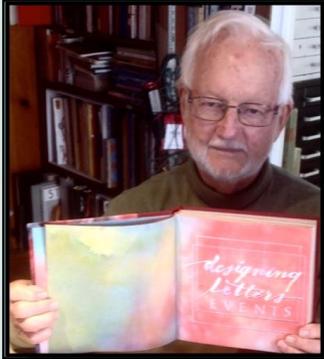
I met Marion at an Orange County workshop. I sat next to him and he gave me many great tips on improving my work. The last time I saw him was as a student at my Victorian Puzzle Valentine class. He will be missed by all. - Marjorie Grace-Sayers

Marion Moon was the guy you always wanted to be within earshot of. He was knowledgeable on many topics and was fun to reminisce with. He was a kind and gentle man, with a good heart, always interested in how you were and what you were doing. When he completed projects at OCSfC programs, his work was very intricate and exact. Learning he'd passed away put a catch in my breath. A very bright light has been extinguished. - Pat Bennett

I remember Marion as a quietly witty and well-informed man who had such a wealth of knowledge and interest in so many subjects. I loved to sit next to him at Orange County meetings. He had the mind of an engineer and appreciation for detail, which showed in his calligraphy and bookbinding skills. I won one of the boxes he made for a raffle prize and to this day can't bear to use it. So very lovely, just as he was. - Debbie Powell

I recall Marion being a very quiet presence in the back of the room during our Orange County meetings. He listened and took in all the goings-on in the room and then might give his opinion if asked. I am sure he thought some of us women were at times way off base, but he would just smile and be very quiet. He was a delightful, caring man with a wealth of knowledge about so many things, including calligraphy. - Linda O'Neill

## *Dick Pio* March 1, 1928 - August 3, 2021



After his retirement from Hughes Aircraft in 1985, Dick Pio embarked on many new adventures, including calligraphy hand making custom books, and teaching book binding. Along with his wife Lois, he began tandem bike riding, and they traveled the world bike riding, making new friends on each adventure.

Dick's background in engineering and his ability to be focused on detail nurtured a love of precision which came to the fore in his love of calligraphy, book binding and in his role as teacher of both art forms. Described as "inventive, clever, humorous, witty, well read, charming and respected by all, he was always quick with an appropriate quip that revealed his exquisite command of the English language. - *June Maffin*

Dick taught so many of us to bind books and make clamshell boxes. Ever so patient, even as his face would get red and he'd wipe his face, he always appeared 'cool.' - *DeAnn Singh*

A gentle man and friend to all. I treasure his little books that I have. And I will think of him when I see tandem bike riders. He was an inspiration and will be missed. - *Barbara Close*

I took several classes with Dick. We lost a good one. - *Linda O'Neill*

It was my privilege to get interact with him at one of the early retreats at Casa. He was kind and generous, talented and funny, and we shared a mutual appreciation for bike riding. He will be missed. - *Kerry Laughren Hedley*

Dick Pio was a real gentleman and a very talented artist. Through the years, Dick taught many classes and created beautiful books, often presented in equally beautiful boxes. He will be missed and long remembered by all who knew him. - *Linda Renner*

Dick bound three of my music books. That added class and quality to them. - *Peter Thornton*

He indeed was a welcome and kind fixture at calligraphic conferences and workshops. - *Diane von Arx Anderson*

I can still see Dick and Lois tooling about Yosemite on their bicycle built for two. And I have a piece of his work hanging on my wall. - *Lise Orwig*

A wonderful, talented, kind, sharing, very special friend! A true gentleman and a gentle man. The art world will miss him and our heavenly group will welcome him! - *Nancy Campbell*

Dick was a warm and kind gentleman whose smile made me calm and happy. I feel so fortunate to have had opportunities to learn from him. I am treasuring my clamshell box that I made under his instruction. - *Yukimi Annand*

We have lost a kind and gentle soul. I have one of his bound notepad books. Never used it because it was special, even more so now. - *Kingsley Benefield*

When we lived in Cambria, Dick and Lois stayed in our guest house for a few days. They shared stories of their travels on the tandem bike. Dick presented us with one of his handmade books when they left. I treasure it for the accuracy, beauty and perfection. Dick will be missed greatly. - *Susan Masin*

Dick Pio was a well-respected engineer at Hughes Aircraft Company. He developed unique system controls using his euphoniously-named "Piograms." - *Fel Bautista* (Hughes Aircraft)

## *Gerry Phillips* May 3, 1938 - January 25, 2022



I will miss Gerry's sweet smile, her gentle ways, and her friendship. Gerry could always be counted on to volunteer to be a greeter at Letters California Style. From the moment I met Gerry, she was always an active member of the OCSfC Board. You could always count on a smiling greeting from Gerry. I am thankful to have had so many wonderful memories, throughout the years, of happy times with Gerry.  
- Chris Ewen

Gerry's association with the Society was an activity she loved. While not the artist that most of you are, she kept trying to improve through the many classes and workshops. She was always respected for her effort - thank you! She would come home from an activity, set me down, and proudly show me examples of her work. I will deeply miss that, as well as working with her on the many activities of the Society. In loving memory of my wife - Dave Phillips.

Gerry was a loyal calligraphy student and she had a smile for everyone. She took homework and projects seriously and would enjoy sharing. She was an asset to our class at ABC in Cerritos. We will miss you deeply, dear Gerry. Rest in peace now. - Barbara Close

What a sweet person to sit next to in the ABC class with Barbara Close. - Sylvia Kowal

So saddened to receive the news about Gerry's passing. So many good memories of commuting with Gerry to OCSfC meetings. What a kind, sweet lady, with a true servant's heart. She will be missed in many hearts.  
- Karen Gideon

Gerry was a most welcoming and friendly face at OCSfC programs, Board meetings, and Barbara Close's classes at ABC when I first ventured into calligraphy so many years ago. I don't recall her ever taking a break from filling a Board position of some sort—doing whatever was needed—always ready to help! I'll miss her, as will so many others whose lives she quietly and graciously enhanced. - Debbie Powell

Speaking for Solar Nibs and myself, Gerry will be greatly missed, both as a friend and as a long-time member of our calligraphy community. She was always a warm, friendly person in our ABC calligraphy class with Barbara Close, and in both Orange County and Solar Nibs meetings. She volunteered to help in any way needed. She will be long remembered as a special friend. Linda Renner

Although I did not know her well, I always found Gerry very friendly. She always extended a warm smile. So sad. The guild has had so many losses in recent years. - Andrea Joy Factor

I will always remember her beautiful smile and kind heart. May she rest in peace. - Jan Tamehir

Sweet, sweet Gerry. I was very blessed to volunteer with you on the OCSfC Board for so many years. I always looked forward to our meetings, knowing that I would be seeing you and your wonderful smile. - Matilda Maestas

Gerry was such a friendly person and so welcoming. I remember meeting her the first time in Barbara Close's class. She always wore a SMILE on her face. We'll miss Orange County's avid volunteer. - Mina Choksi

Gerry was such a kind, loving, and gentle soul, always with a smile on her face - Jan Benz

New to calligraphy, I was drawn to SfC after I discovered that Gerry Phillips was a Fullerton resident. She was kind and patient, and dedicated in her interactions with new members like me. I will miss her as a "home city" calligrapher and a giving soul. - Jie Tian

## *Sheila Waters* March 13, 1929 - March 18, 2022



Five days after our family gathering for her 93rd birthday, my dear mother, Sheila, passed away. She died peacefully in her bed, as she had always wished. Cathy and I have lived with and cared for Sheila for the past five years. Our living together allowed Sheila to stay in this house and live exactly as she wanted. We shared and discussed everything every day and she never lost her sharp mind, nor her strong opinions! Over my whole long career, she and I helped each other in our writing and giving feedback on each other's work. This was something very fulfilling and unique, really. I am blessed. For our family, it feels devastating and we didn't imagine it would happen without warning. Sheila was so mentally vital and active that it seemed she would go on for many more years. But her doctor thinks her heart just gave out in the end. For me, my mother was so much more than I can ever articulate. She will be with me every day for the rest of my life. - Julian Waters

What a beautiful message from Julian. Sheila was a force of nature and an outstanding artist (whether she thought so or not). What a remarkable Mother/Son team. I have known Sheila for over 60 years and our roots were planted on very similar soil 10 years apart. She has surely left her mark. - Donald Jackson

News of Sheila's death was certainly a shock, as she'd been so lively and full of enjoyment at her birthday party with all the family just so short a time beforehand, Marvelous that she had such a long and productive creative life. She will be missed by calligraphers across the world, but most of all by her immediate family, who looked after her so well. - Margaret Morgan

I dearly loved her and consider her one of my master teachers. She was the keeper of the flame. She was firm in the knowledge she held and was very much filled with the purpose of passing it on to as many as would hear. She was one of those people you just wished could live forever. - Janet Martorello

I had the honor of going to her house and studying with her for a week. It will always be a special time remembered for her spark and skill. - Celeste Wong

I'm sure the calligraphy community is in mourning. But she sure left her mark on everyone in some way or another, - Julie Gray

It was so sad to lose the great sun of the calligraphy world. It was my dream to take her master class. Everyone must be heartbroken at the sorrow of losing her. I also lost her from afar and my heart aches. - Hewon Juhng

Such a loss ... grateful for her long life, and going in her sleep. - Diana O'Brand

I'm so happy that I was able to take a class from Sheila at the Rand. It was a color theory class. - Chris Ewen

Oh, my. It seemed she would live forever. - Linda Mirth

I'm so sad to hear about our calligraphy legend Sheila Waters' passing. Although I had never met her or had a chance to take her class, I gather, from the calligraphers to whom she passed on her knowledge over the years, that they treasure her book like an encyclopedia. May her soul rest in a blissful state. - Mina Choksi

*Shirley Holland* September 25, 1934 - September 8, 2022

My aunt was a great influence for me, as an artist, from the time I was a child. The Society for Calligraphy was central to her life and artistry. She loved teaching and enjoyed the relationships she forged in the calligraphic community. As her involvement with the Society for Calligraphy enriched her life, so has it contributed to my own. - Renée S. Holland



I took over for Shirley at ABC Adult Ed School in Cerritos when she and Charles moved to Squaw Valley about 20+ years ago and have been teaching there ever since. There is only one student I can think of who is still with me from those early days: Cheryl Van Middlesworth. She was Shirley's student, and now mine, for over 20 years. I am grateful for all of these years. - Barbara Close

I recall meeting Shirley and her husband at a Montecito Retreat, and I believe I saw them periodically at other events until they moved to the Fresno area. I hadn't seen her in years but I remember her as a very kind, interesting woman who loved teaching and sharing the world of calligraphy. - Debbie Powell

Shirley was my second calligraphy teacher when she was teaching at ABC. I still remember some of the projects I did all those years ago in her class. She was a gentle, soft-spoken encourager. - Sandy Doerr

Shirley was a devoted member of SfC and we loved her. I was in Reggie Ezell's year-long class with her (in 1988-89, I believe) and it gave me an opportunity to get to know her and her art well. We also ate dinner together and Chuck often joined us, and he became a good friend as well. -DeAnn Singh

I got to know Shirley and her husband Charles at the SfC La Casa retreats. Both were such nice people with good senses of humor, always pleasant, with smiles on their faces. Shirley was so very in love with the art and you could see her joy in living and sharing her work with those she loved. I'm smiling just thinking of her and them as a couple. - Janet Martorello

## *Joan Hawks* - January 16, 1930 - June 1, 2023

Ohhh, so sorry to hear of Joan's passing. She was a long-time member of SfC. She'll be missed. - Barbara Close

She was such a sweet lady. I'm gonna miss her. - Carol Hicks

I will surely miss her. She was a sweet woman. - Louis Lemoine.

Joan was such a kind and fun lady. We were in a workshop together at Cal Poly Pomona once and became good friends but saw each other rarely. She added inspiration to the lives of all who knew her. Warmest thoughts to her family. - Marilyn Carlson



So sad to hear that my dear friend Joan Hawks has left us. She was a very talented artist and a lovely soul, and we were friends because of the Society for Calligraphy. Before Covid cancelled our yearly birthday celebrations, we gave her a grand 90th birthday party in early 2020. We will miss you, my friend! - Karin Gable

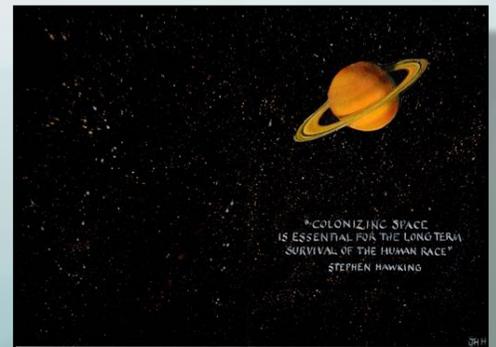


*Photo from Joan's 90th birthday celebration with Jann Marks, Carol Hicks, Carrie Imai and Karin Gable.*

Joan Hawks was the epitome of book and card making. What a lovely, kind lady, who was always willing to share with you how to make it. I remember seeing one of her fun books and asking her if she would teach it if I gathered some friends together. She was delighted. So in the summer, about 20 years ago, we had a Joan Hawks bookmaking class on my patio in Huntington Beach. I remember Joan fondly and she will be truly missed. - Linda O'Neill

I met Joan only six years ago, when I became a new member of the art and calligraphy group "Inspired Artists." The others were long-time members, some of them knowing each other for decades (lucky them!). Joan was always so warm and inspiring, a kindly grandma-type who was happy

to attend meetings and join in, even as her failing health limited her activities. During Covid, when we couldn't meet in person, our group started a collaborative book project. Having been provided a theme and book paper for your own book, each artist created a page for the other members' books. I'm including the page that Joan created for my book, which had the theme of "Travel." I'm glad that I was able to meet Joan and share in some happy times together. - Chava Gerber



*Janet Weber* - died July 30, 2023



Janet Weber died peacefully on July 30, 2023. As a student at Immaculate Heart College in the 1960s, her creativity blossomed in the Art Department with teachers Sr. Corita Kent and Sr. Magdalene Mary. They were a great inspiration for Janet's love of folk art from around the world and seeing the world through the eyes of an artist. Janet spent hours at Corita's side when she was working on her serigraphs. This is where she discovered the art of teaching art.

From 1973 to 1975, she studied calligraphy and illumination under Donald Jackson. This led to her studying with master calligraphers in London and the United States.

She was a founding member of the Society for Calligraphy. As Calligraphy Supervisor for the 1984 Olympics, she led a team of 25 calligraphers to produce over 20,000 certificates for all the athletes and participants.

Even with all her own artistic accomplishments, Janet's love was teaching art at her alma mater, Immaculate Heart High School, for 44 years. She loved her students and she loved watching each of them realize their own artistic gifts whether they were talented or just hopeful. She firmly believed each student was an artist.

Janet humbly and quietly put her own stamp of artistic expression on numerous Immaculate Heart publications, invitations and signs throughout her teaching years. She considered herself a teacher first, artist second.

## *John Rafter* - May 5, 1954 - September 22, 2023



John Rafter was my first calligraphy teacher at Mt. San Antonio college. He was a very disciplined calligrapher and an excellent, methodical teacher. He had studied with Donald Jackson. He will be missed by many, especially his calligraphy and Tai Chi students. - Jenny Allen

John Michael Rafter was a beloved calligraphy instructor through Mount San Antonio College. He also taught Tai Chi - many of his students took both subjects! His classes were so popular that more sessions were added. Some of his students had been with him for 43 years! We all made new friends or got to know old friends better. John's teaching was old-school; he would go around the room and sit with every student, taking plenty of time to demonstrate how to write each letter. That took quite a while, since his classes were large, but I personally thought it gave me lots of time to practice! I learned calligraphy hands from him that I had never learned elsewhere, including the most beautiful form of Italic I have ever written. He had discovered it on a trip to Spain. He dubbed it "Spanish Roundhand." John was very proud of the fact that he had studied in a year-long course with Donald Jackson before SfC was formed. In class, he would continuously give credit to Donald for teaching him helpful techniques. John was deaf, so he didn't initially join groups like SfC, but he did muster his students to attend lectures on the Saint John's Bible or to spend time at SfC's exhibit at the Bowers Museum. He encouraged his students to attend SfC's pre-workshop lectures and to take our classroom tour at the Letters California Style conference. John was deaf and listened to his students by reading lips. So, when the pandemic moved classes online, he could no longer easily see his students asking questions and he decided it was time to retire. He spent the years of the pandemic refreshing his house - repairs, new roof, new paint, removing unnecessary clutter. He was well-liked in his neighborhood and his neighbors helped him with some of the construction work that was beyond his own skills. John, you are missed by many. - Kristi Darwick

We were fellow students in the year-long class with Donald Jackson. In a Zoom call with him, I remember him saying that he didn't want to continue to teach Calligraphy online and wanted to concentrate on other things, like Tai Chi, instead. I'm sure he felt a sadness in not being with his students, as they did for him and the class. Of those students I know, his teaching was valued. I remember the AGM when Kristi presented him with a life membership to SfC, and many of his students showed up to support him. They must have driven quite a long way to be there for him at that meeting in Beverly Hills. Some of them are my students now! Our legacies continue in those who know us and have felt our touch. John, you live on fondly in the hearts of those you've touched. - Janet Martorello

It is with a heavy heart that I learned that John Rafter passed. He was by far one of my favorite teachers, so kind and generous with his time! He made learning the art of lettering so much fun and he was such an amazing calligrapher in his own right. I was fortunate to take multiple classes with him at the West Covina Senior Center. I met so many talented classmates in his Wednesday class and miss all of you immensely. Covid happened and John's classes stopped abruptly. It was such a terrible loss for me, as is his passing! Rest in Peace, talented, kind, friendly one! Thank you for all the knowledge you shared in person and in your classroom. You left us all way too early! - Nancy Rauen

*Larry Brady* - January 13, 1936 - December 9, 2023  
*Marsha Brady* - December 12, 1939 - December 9, 2023



Photo by Julian Waters

It is with great sorrow that we let you know of the passing of Larry and Marsha Brady on December 9, 2023. (Icy road, multiple car accident.) Larry and Marsha were my friends and mentors. They've both left a remarkable legacy within the calligraphic and design communities, and will be deeply missed. - Randall M. Hasson

Marsha and Larry were long-time friends of mine. I had known them since we all studied with the legendary Hermann Zapf 44 or so years ago. I am thankful that Cathy and I visited them in 2019 before the pandemic and stayed several days. Special times, capping decades of friendship and shared interests. They were like a dear uncle and aunt to me. Both touched so many of us and truly made a difference. - Julian Waters.

Marsha loved to write small and was critical of our guidelines to 1/64th of an inch! I took her class at Cerritos College for five years. She was an amazing teacher and a super model of a teacher. I was with Ann Lawrence when I heard the news and we remembered all the fun times we had with Marsha. - Sylvia Kowal

I was glad I was with Sylvia when we got the sad news. Sylvia and I took Marsha Brady's two-year calligraphy certificate course at Cerritos College for six years! Marsha taught the basics of all hands so very well and we are so grateful for her way of teaching. - Ann Lawrence

So sorry to hear of the tragic loss of Larry and Marsha. They were the ultimate power couple for hand-lettered arts and design. I was fortunate enough to take an Uncial class from Marsha in San Luis Obispo. I treasure a tiny alphabet she lettered for all of us in red gouache. Julian's tribute was heartfelt. - Mary Lou Johnson

Marsha and Larry Brady are very special to me. They are my calligraphic foundation and are the reason I have made calligraphy my life-long career. I was privileged to study with them at Cerritos College during the late 1970s and early 1980s, and I received a solid foundation in letterforms, design, and teaching. I have modeled my career after them. Besides being amazing artists and teachers, Marsha and Larry were stellar people. I have so much gratitude, respect and admiration for them. - Carla Harris

Marsha's passionate love of teaching led her to the teaching profession and a career teaching special needs children, junior/senior high school students, and adults. Meeting Larry was a gift on many levels, for it introduced her to graphic design and calligraphy and they (and Larry) soon were added to her list of passions in life. - June Maffin

I was one of the lucky ones who got to take classes with both Larry and Marsha. I took several graphic design classes with Larry, as well as a calligraphy course. He even started a computer design class when computers were first introduced to Cerritos College. I was in that one also. Their impeccable tastes for 'the best you can be' instilled good qualities that were carried through in all of us who were exposed to the Bradys. They also became friends. We corresponded a lot over the years after they moved to Colorado. Our Calligraphic Community is greatly saddened by this tragic accident, but finding peace in knowing they are still together helps ease the pain. - Barbara Close

I was fortunate and honored to be a student in the calligraphy courses Marsha taught at Cerritos College. Marsha was a consummate teacher. She had a pulse on each and every person and was able to take each one of us to our potential. I remember our critiques. Marsha had a passion for classic letterforms and held us to high standards that she also applied to her work in stunning ways. She was one of the best teachers I have ever had. She was always dressed so nice and was impeccable. She always carried a lovely handkerchief. - Celeste Wong

*Larry Brady* - January 13, 1936 - December 9, 2023  
*Marsha Brady* - December 12, 1939 - December 9, 2023



I just read the SfC announcement of the passing away of our founding members. I had never met them but have always heard about them from my teachers and their students. This is such sad news to end the year by. It's a great loss for the calligraphy world. Although they had retired a long time ago, they had shared their pearls of wisdom with honorable students and teachers. The Bradys' legacy will live through them for carrying the cross when calligraphy was considered to be an obsolete art. I give credit to all the teachers for their devout dedication to this art form. I pray for Marsha and Larry Brady's souls to seek peace together as they did everything together. - Mina Choksi

I had not heard of the deaths of the Bradys. What a terrible loss! I met them at a few calligraphic events over the years, but I never had the honor of taking classes from either of them. My heart goes out to those of you who knew them well. - Pat Bennett

I'm so devastated by this shocking news. My heart just swells with tears. - Andrea Joy Factor  
I was hoping to meet them someday. So sad that they were taken together. - Jenny Allen

One of my very early calligraphy classes with SfC was Formal Romans with Marsha Brady. It wouldn't be until several years, and several calligraphy classes later, that I realized I'd jumped right into the deep end with that first class! She elevated calligraphy to a serious art form with her tremendously high standards. I remember that we had to mat all our work for critiques, just like I'd done in art school. One time, I was having a tough time with a Roman capital M or something, and when she came around I asked her what I could do to make it better. She scrutinized the letter for a moment, then got out her Schaedler Ruler and measured the x-height of the letter and boldly stated, "Well, here is your problem. Your letter is only 63/64ths of an inch. It should be 64/64ths. It's simply too short." As she moved on to the next student, I nodded my head and thought to myself, "Oh, Marsha, that is very generous of you, but my problems are a LOT bigger than that!" This memory always brings a smile to my face and I think of it every time I remember that class on Romans. And every time I pick up a Schaedler Ruler. - Robbie Saslow

My bio reads, "I survived Marsha Brady's two year calligraphy program". Marsha not only helped me shape my letters but shaped my life. Marsha was/is my forever calligraphic hero. As a result of her loss, I've reached out to many of my instructors to let them know they made a difference. Marsha knew I held her in the highest regard. - Risa Gettler

I met Marsha at a Long Beach Unified School District Adult Ed Class ... her first, as well as mine. She was teaching at a Middle School full time and discovered calligraphy was a way to engage that age group in a positive activity. She was amazing, and I have never had a better teacher. She gave me a love and appreciation for calligraphy, and I felt so very fortunate to take all her classes in Long Beach at the beginning of her successful career. I am so very sad to hear of this loss to all of us. - Gayle Knapp

Marsha took her teaching seriously and expected her students to do the same. She pushed us to go beyond our comfort zone and, as a result, we got better in our skills and gained confidence in our abilities. Everyone wanted to please Marsha. A compliment from her was very special indeed! I was personally blessed and encouraged by my time with Marsha. She made a very positive difference in my life. - Sue Sengstock

## *Susan Groesbeck-Hall* - died December 14, 2023

Susan Groesbeck-Hall passed away on December 14, 2023.

She was a member of the Northern Arapaho Tribe. Her native name translates to “Red Indian Paint Woman.”

Susan developed a love for reading at an early age. At the end of each school year, she ordered the maximum number of books to tide her through the summer. She would find a way to read a book in any situation. While blow drying her hair, she would often be reading!



While a student at UC Irvine, Susan enrolled in a work study program with the Orange County Public Defender. She retired 31 years later as a Supervising Investigator.

Susan was a certified scuba diver. For 20 years, Susan and her dive buddy, Ed, traveled to unique areas to dive. They went to the Kingdom of Tonga, Micronesia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, to name a few. On a trip to Bonaire, Susan became an expert at finding seahorses. She proudly memorialized the seahorse in a calligraphy project entitled “Seahorse.”

Susan enjoyed the challenge of new projects. Tole painting “Bears on a Log” and other Christmas-related items led to her painting and then making her own Christmas ornaments for family and friends. She grew gourds and made ornaments. She decorated gourds with Native American themes. Her daughter, granddaughter, nieces and nephews received a handmade ornament each year until they were 18 years old. Susan hid her initials and the year the item was made on each ornament. Family members raced to be the first to find the information!

Susan enjoyed the challenges of new hobbies and projects. She enjoyed the creative process. She made a clock from a cigar box! She took great pride in her handwriting and was supportive of instruction in cursive writing. Long before she joined the Society for Calligraphy, she hand-made Christmas and other cards. Susan eagerly looked forward to attending Letters California Style each year, as well as workshops and classes. Susan admired the talents and skills of calligraphers, but most of all she enjoyed the people she met. She enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship among calligraphers.

Susan took particular interest in book binding. Whenever she was asked what she was doing in her retirement, she'd proudly say, “I make books.”