

April 2023

Grateful Survivors Ilona Fuchs and Her Husband Survived Auschwitz

Ilona Fuchs spent 20 years teaching sewing and tailoring at PCC from 1964 to 1985. Every year her students modeled clothing they created in her classes at a fashion show for the campus and the community. While a lot of people knew Ilona, few knew about her life before she and her husband came to the United States. The article below is Ilona's daughter's tribute to her parents and their struggle to survive Auschwitz. With so much hatred and Anti-Semitism in the world today, the article gives us a first-hand look at what one of our retirees experienced. Ilona passed away in 2016 at the age of 98 ½. She was crocheting a blanket for her son right up to the end.

By Marta Fuchs

Recently, my brother Henry Fuchs received a prestigious professional award and I had the pleasure of attending the ceremony. As I watched him being honored and celebrated by colleagues and students from around the world, I couldn't help but think, he and I are members of a generation that wasn't supposed to have been born. How many millions who were murdered could have made contributions to society as well?

Our parents were among the few from the countryside of Hungary who survived the Holocaust. Was it due to luck? Fate? Fortitude? Probably pure luck.

Mom survived the brutality of Auschwitz and other concentration camps, and Dad survived five years in the forced labor battalions in the Ukraine where 80% of the Jewish men didn't make it.

Their families in the small town of Tokaj had known each other before the war. After liberation in 1945 and the passing of my mother's five-year commitment to wait for her fiancé who didn't come back, my parents married in 1946. My brother



Ilona and Morton Fuchs

and I were soon born, surprisingly healthy despite the severe malnutrition our parents endured. In fact, Mom at 27 years old had to have her few remaining teeth pulled and began wearing a complete set of dentures.

We had a happy childhood, and our parents rebuilt their lives amidst the remnants of their devastated Jewish community.

Communism soon took away our dad's grocery store, giving him only 20% of the inventory. The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 erupted and was quickly shut down by the Russians. Some Jews were murdered in a nearby town. Our uncle was on a hit list. It became increasingly dangerous to live there.

A few weeks later, I'm walking for hours in the dead of winter and middle of the night in trenches of slushy snow, escaping the border to Austria with my family and a young girl my parents agreed to take with us on behalf of a family foiled in their escape due to illness. Complete silence we were sworn to lest we be discovered and captured and thrown in jail or shot.

Months of refugee camps in Austria and Germany followed, then 10 days of wretched seasickness across the stormy seas on the rickety U.S. General Walker coming to America.

Finally, the Statue of Liberty appears, and everyone drops to their knees and bursts out singing the Hungarian national anthem (probably the only song they had in common, my brother later

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Tim Berreth Retired, and Then He Got Married He Wasn't a Confirmed Bachelor After All

Tim Berreth, who worked for 31 years in Staging Services at PCC until he retired, has gotten married. He is one of very few retirees who married for the first time after they retired. (As a matter of fact, he may be the only retiree we know who that did that.)

Most people thought Tim was a confirmed bachelor, but once he found the right woman, everything changed.

Tim met Andrea Curthoys online, and the two dated for several years before tying the knot. Andrea told Tim that he was the best thing she ever ordered online. The couple would have been married sooner, but COVID interfered, and their plans had to be delayed more than two years.

Andrea is an Air Force brat whose dad is a retired colonel, so she has traveled all over the place. She was born in Germany but moved to Florida, Oklahoma, and several places in between, and then finally here to Southern California.

She's a UCLA grad and is currently working on her Master's in HR, so that's keeping her busy. She is also the Events Manager at the L.A. California Club which is why our wedding was so



organized, Tim said.

Yes, the color scheme was orange, and her flowers were custom created. We had a big sit-down dinner and believe it or not, she got me on the dance floor!

Sober no less!!

Her big sport is skydiving where she won a Silver Medal in the Nationals.

Although we met online, they worked at Magic Mountain at the same time. However, they never met there.

Our first date was in Culver City, and we had dinner, wine, and a wonderful time. Guess that's why she let me take her out again, he said.

Tim said there is not too much the retirees don't know about him. In his 31 years at the college, we hosted some big events—Technical Emmys, David Crosby concert, tons of churches and dances shows and plays. There was also Lonny's Body building where I always placed last, he added.

Tim is currently volunteering at his old high school—Canyon High, for their theater department as well as doing freelance work at a small community theater in Santa Clarita.

And of course, Tim said, Andrea and I are also under the supervision of Piper our dog. He protects us from the mailman and makes sure we keep up our skills of giving him treats on time as well as tummy rubs and head scratches.

A Friend Who Cared and Helped

Dona Mitoma's husband was best friends with Barbara Marshall Williams' son as they grew up in Monrovia. Marvin Inouye calls her "mom". Barbara grew up in the Virgil/Southeast Hollywood area of Los Angeles. (It was also nicknamed Japanese-Flats at one time.) She was a neighbor to many Japanese Americans.

During WWII, as the Japanese were ordered to gather at bus locations to be bussed to the assembly centers, the Marshall family made their friends breakfast and coffee while they were waiting to be transported to the Pomona Fairgrounds. They also delivered homemade apple pie a la mode to Pomona.

It was before freeways, so it was not an easy drive. They had to pass the food over the fence because they were not

allowed inside.

In addition, the Marshalls were given power of attorney by their friends, so they could manage the properties of their neighbors who were incarcerated. Their garage was full of their neighbor's precious items (like kimonos, musical instruments and furniture.)

In July, 2023, 96-year-old Barbara Marshall Williams will travel to Heart Mountain Interpretive Center in Cody, Wyoming with her family to receive the Ladonna Zall Compassionate Witness Award. Many of her friends will join in this celebration including Dona Mitoma's family and her two sons. For those who don't know, Harry Kawahara was also an internee in an American concentration camp.



Homeboy Industries Offers Hope by Treating Gang Members as Human Beings

By Alan Lamson

I recently visited Homeboy Industries in downtown Los Angeles to meet with a former PCC student, Laura Hayes, who was twice awarded one of our Retirees scholarships. Laura now works at Homeboy as an academic program manager.

Most of us have probably heard about Homeboy. It was founded by a Jesuit priest, Father Greg Doyle, (aka Father Greg), who has made it his life's mission to help former gang members—as well as the formerly incarcerated—gain hope for their lives. He adopted a radical approach toward accomplishing his mission: “treat gang members as human beings.”

Homeboy Industries is the largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world.

I first met Laura in 2018 at our Retirees awards luncheon at the University Club. Our scholarship committee was impressed that she had dealt with many hardships in her life: her father had been incarcerated (and still is), she has been raising three autistic children as a single mom, and she was taking several classes at PCC.



But even with these hardships, she found time to serve as founding member and President of the on-campus club, Homeboy Scholars. The organization helps formerly incarcerated students at PCC as well as those who, like herself, have been “system impacted” by a close relative being incarcerated.

Flash forward to now. Laura is working full time as an academic program manager at Homeboy. Besides that, she is also completing a specially designed BA degree at Pitzer that combines art, education, and criminal justice.

As I approached the main building at Homeboy, I felt a bit nervous seeing people milling about outside and in the parking lot. My nervousness left, however, when I saw Laura talking on her phone and walking towards the gated lot where I had just parked. She greeted many as we walked back to the main building.

After meeting a few people—most with prominent tattoos—and walking through the gift shop, we sat down at the Homeboy Diner. We were the only two eating at the time. The menu is short, featuring a variety of tacos, sandwiches, and salads. It gets high marks from regular diners. We both ordered the cheese chili relleno sandwich, which was more than either of us could finish, so we both took away doggie bags.

Over lunch she spoke about Homeboy's training and academic programs. Most of those at Homeboy are working on an 18-month job training program, mostly in the food and retail industries.

Homeboys pays all trainee educational expenses. They are placed with local employers who receive tax credits for hiring them.

For those who have prominent tattoos, Homeboy also offers tattoo removal services.

The national pass rate for certification is 40 percent. Homeboy's pass rate is between 65 and 70 percent. That makes their graduates especially sought after, particularly in the solar panel marketplace.

As for Laura, she oversees the adult high school diploma and equivalency program in partnership with Twilight Adult School in Pasadena.

She also co-leads the adult literacy and English Language learner programs and facilitates two life skills and personal development classes at Homeboy.

I left soon after lunch; Laura needed to get back to work. She mentioned that Father Greg was occasionally around, but he spends much time on the lecture circuit raising funds for Homeboy.

Because Homeboy Industries is known worldwide, visitors from many other countries often visit to see how the organization works. Homeboy has partnered with more than 400 like-minded organizations across the globe.

Recently, Harry and Meagan, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex stopped by to meet students and learn more about the programs.

Since Father Gregg was not there during my recent visit, I am hoping we can get a group from the Retirees Association together and meet him for lunch one day soon.



The Couple Adapted Quickly to Life in America

Continued From Page 1

noted). Family greets us with endless tears of joy. Mom and her two sisters, who likewise survived Auschwitz and escaped with us, are once again seeing their two older sisters who came to America in 1937. We're taken to Camp Kilmer in New Jersey for processing.

But why suddenly are men beating up people? Hadn't we all finally arrived safely in the New World we all risked our lives for? They were former Hungarian Nazis, I later learned from someone who was working there, still beating up Jews ten years after the war ended, here in the land of the free.

My parents began working instantly. The day after we left the transit camp and stayed with our sponsoring rela-



tives, my father pounded the pavement of Linden, New Jersey streets with a dictionary, memorizing and endlessly repeating "looking for a job, looking for a job."

A few days of work here and there, and he was at last taken in by a kind soul in a screen making business who spoke Yiddish and taught my father what was to be his trade for the rest of his life.

My mother, a trained seamstress with her own salon in Hungary, began doing alterations and designing wedding dresses and lavish gowns for women with means. I loved playing with the scraps of gorgeous material.



Photos are from the scrapbooks Ilona made of her students working on their outfits in class and getting ready for the fashion show.

Later she would return to school for her teaching credential (I wrote her college papers in junior high), and she taught dress design and tailoring for over 20 years at a Pasadena City College and senior centers.

My brother and I started school and quickly picked up English, but not before I received Fs on every second-grade vowel worksheet.

The teacher didn't seem to question whether I might be pronouncing English with a Hungarian accent which actually

helped me ace the spelling bees since Hungarian is completely phonetic.

We soon excelled, continued with our music lessons, Henry the violin, I the piano, and we performed together in Hungarian costumes as cute, talented newly American children.

We went to college, graduate schools, became accomplished in multiple careers, had children who themselves became accomplished and kind people with generosity of spirit.

My brother won the apparently well-deserved award. Twitter and Facebook erupted with accolades and funny Henry stories (everyone has one). "One

of the most inspirational people I've ever met," "a brilliant man," "gave me the most useful advice I've ever received."

Yes, I was proud of him and happy to be introduced jokingly as his favorite (and only) sibling. But a measure of sadness enveloped me as well. Our father had three older siblings, all with children, all who remained in Auschwitz.

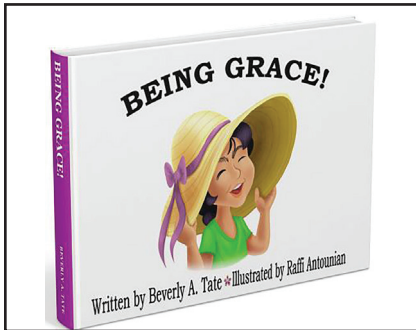
What could they have contributed to the world had they been given a chance to live?



Beverly Tate Publishes Her Third Children's Book in a Series about 'Why Being Grace?'

By Beverly Tate

Friends and family members keep asking me the same question, "Why are you writing children's books?" I always give them the same answer, "Grace." Grace, the daughter of one of my husband's (Mel Donalson) former students, is a beautiful, adventurous, curious, imaginative, joyful, and loving young girl. She is the inspiration and



motivation behind the Being Grace children's book series.

Since she was born, her mother and father have generously shared Grace's life with my husband and me. We have spent time watching her perform at Pretend City, petting exotic animals at a zoo,

splashing in the water at the beach, listening to her practice her violin, blowing and chasing bubbles with Mel at a park, and playing the piano with me. Before writing the first Being Grace book, I began writing poems about Grace's experiences:

Grace at the Beach with Momma © 2019

Relaxing on a hot sunlit beach without care,
Grace sits quietly in her pink Minnie Mouse chair.
Observing a tableau of happy beachgoers:

Building sandcastles...
Chasing seagulls...
Splashing water...
Riding the waves...

Joining the joyful and playful scene on the beach,
Grace runs furiously across the sand with ease.
Jumping into Momma's outstretched arms with such glee,
makes Grace feel so amazingly, lovingly free!

Grace Kayaking with Baba © 2019

Kayaking with Grace on a pleasant summer day,
Baba exudes complete joy while they sail on the lake.
Paddling while Grace delivers a long oration,
Baba smiles with delight when she asks him questions:

Do seagulls sleep at night?
Do sea lions know how to fly?
Do dolphins really cry?

Talking, giggling, and waving her arms in the air,
Baba grins watching Grace's passion and flair.

Paddling with his Grace in the kayak on the lake,
Baba thoroughly enjoyed their special play date.

After writing a series of Grace poems, I decided to find an illustrator and create a children's book. The first Being Grace book is a fictional tale written in seven vignettes. Each vignette shows how Grace finds magical adventures, joy, love,

and serenity in the ordinary and common activities in life.

During one of our outings at the beach, Grace saw a bunny sitting next to a Trolley. She asked me, "Beverly, what if the trolley drove bunnies to the beach?" In the second book in the series, Being Grace: Bunnies on a Trolley, Grace, the story's protagonist, envisions herself as the conductor of a trolley that transports bunnies, and sometimes other animals, to and from the beach. As the owner and operator of Beach Trolley Trails, Grace shows kindness and friendship for all of her adventurous travelers.



In the third, and final installment of the Being Grace series, Being Grace: Baba and the Great Trike Race is a story of the loving relationship between a father and his daughter, Grace,

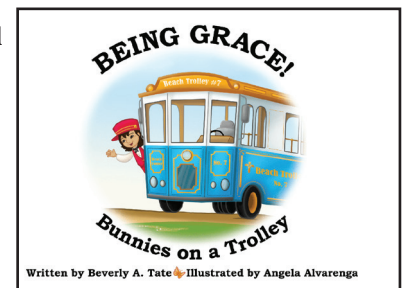


who always sees the extraordinary in the ordinary. Grace's participation in a trike-a-thon for "Rescue Puppies" takes some unexpected turns. This story is part fact and fiction.

For more information about

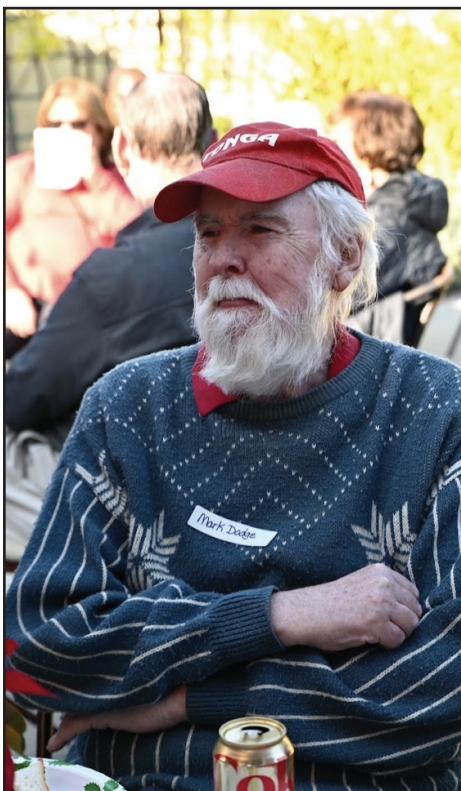
the Being Grace series and the illustrators' bios, go to www.beinggracebooks.com.

Besides writing children's books, I am also collaborating with Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural & Bookstore, co-founded by author and activist, Luis J. Rodriguez and his wife Trini, on an annual essay contest, Black and Latino Young Men Read. The essay contest is open to African American and Latino male students enrolled in a high school, two-year college, and/or four-year college/university. Since 2016 we have given out \$19,150 in financial awards, and we have also donated over one thousand books to juvenile facilities as well as schools in underserved communities. Additionally, beginning March 2023 we are launching a new essay contest, Young Women of Color Read, for 12th grade women students enrolled in high schools in Southern California. For more information regarding both contests or making a donation, you may email me at black-and-latinomenread@gmail.com.



Retirees Renew Friendships at Holiday Get Together





More Fun With Friends and Colleagues



Loving Life on the Central Coast

By Mark Glanzman

It is with excitement that I share the tale of living the SLO life here on the California Central Coast.

I began my adventure soon after retiring from PCC 10 years ago. I attended my son's wedding in Cambria after hearing so much about this enchanting town, and the rest as they say is history. I've always enjoyed traveling the legendary and scenic Highway 1 to Big Sur and beyond, but I only passed through Cambria on those occasions, never having really explored this quaint and unforgettable little town. The restaurants, wineries, art galleries, antique malls and the down to earth sense of belonging was what drew me to pick up stakes and make the move from Southern California to the 93428-zip code.

Having daily coffee at the Cambria Coffee Roasting Company with the "guys" left quite a memorable impres-



sion as this group has lived here for most of the past 20 years and the stories and highlights of their lives and careers are points of discussion that bring about a lot of laughs and poetic imagery beyond words.

Quite interesting and a bit unusual with a population of only 5,500, I know more people that I grew up with from high school, college and folks I've worked with over the years who live here in Cambria. At last count, it was nine individuals. We make a point to get together regularly at Fermentations for happy hour and a glass of wine or what we call the neighborhood wine walk. This is where different homes host and the people living on surrounding streets are invited for BBQ, Hors D'oeuvres, wine and music. A total blast for one and all!

Watching the NLCS baseball playoff series at the West End Bar and Grill (shout out to Vicki & Gary Neal owners)



in October 2021 led to an article published in the L.A. Times dealing with the Dodgers vs Giants. I sat next to a reporter on assignment, and she took copious notes for almost three hours as Cambria is exactly half way between L.A. and SF, and she wanted to get the scoop on fan allegiance. Boy, did she get it. Half the bar were Giants fans and the rest Dodger fans. The following Monday morning, the article made the front-page news above the fold, and I was quoted predicting the Dodgers would indeed win the series and did we ever! Quite thrilling and most memorable indeed as anyone who knows me understands the passion I have for all things pertaining to the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Cambria Pines by the Sea lends itself to living what I fondly refer to as the SLO life. I adapted rather easily after living an idyllic life in the San Gabriel Valley for most of my life. Having dubbed myself a "MOL" (man of leisure), I fit right in to slowing my roll and enjoying the many outdoor activities which abound here. Hiking and biking are two of my favorite things to do, and Cambria is the place to do them. The trails are amazing and surrounded by the magnificent forests and the ocean where the sand meets the sea.

The Fiscalini Ranch, for example, is



a 450-acre preserve with several trails that take your breath away. I also enjoy walking the dogs (Weimaraner's) on this piece of property. Bird watching with a good set of binoculars is a great hobby.

Whale watching up and down the



Central Coast is a favorite activity for many, and Morro Bay and Avila Beach have charter boats that take seafarers out for a few hours to witness the spectacle. It's such a great sight to see and experience.

I go deep sea fishing on occasion when the conditions are right, and I have met some amazing fisherman on this journey. I enjoy kayaking in Morro Bay and seeing the sea otters and seals that frequent the bay. There is always something to do and see here along the Central Coast.

On your next visit to the wine country or leisurely trek up the coast, stop and stay awhile. Check out Antiques on Main where you will find some amazing treasures. Hit up the local Soto's True Earth Market where the selection of organic fruits and vegetables are quite impressive. Prepared farm to table meals served in several restaurants are simply sensational. Pickleball and Lawn Bowling are big activities here in town and the local music venues while not quite mainstream, are quite good.

I enjoy a night out with Ma Lady Debborah seeking new adventures and making memories together at the Cambria Pines Lodge.

In Memoriam

Gloria Horton Taught English, ESL

Gloria Horton (née Sanchez) was born in the Bronx, New York, on October 19th, 1934. She married James Horton in 1957; they divorced in 1992. She has two sons, David and Thomas. She also has two grandchildren, Philip and Janice, the twin children of David. Gloria began her professional career as a Registered Nurse, working primarily in psychiatric wards. A number of years later she returned to nursing in a dialysis unit.

While enrolled in courses at Pasadena City College, Gloria found her true professional calling, teaching. After earning both an advanced degree English and a credential in Basic Education from Chapman College, she joined the Pasadena Community College faculty full time in the fall of 1990.

As one of only a handful of faculty members certified to teach both in English and ESL, Gloria taught courses in English Composition, Children's Literature, Women's Literature, and ESL. She enjoyed the academic environment and took special pleasure in working with her students.

The obligatory rants about 'unending stacks of papers to grade' and 'students



who can't string two words together in a coherent manner' aside, Gloria derived a great deal of personal satisfaction from helping her students grow.

In 2023, pandemic-related challenges convinced Gloria that after 31 years of devoted service, it was time to retire. During her early years at PCC, Gloria hosted a food and cooking segment on

the school radio station, KPCC, and was a "first-rate" copy editor for *The Courier*, the campus newspaper.

A life-long learner, Gloria was happiest while doing research. Whether it was gardening, fine jewelry, murder mysteries, or Oriental cuisine, whatever topic she became interested in was researched relentlessly until she had explored every aspect.

Gloria was also passionately fond of dogs; specifically, "giant" breeds. After owning a number of Great Danes, she 'upgraded' to Irish Wolfhounds. Although her champ, Tucker, stole her heart, each of her dogs were beloved family members and companions.

Gloria lived her life as a determined, independent individual, often during times which neither valued nor accepted those characteristics in a woman. Whatever flaws she may have had, no one can accuse her of not following her own path. Gloria would scoff at the idea of mourning her passing with some dreary, solemn ceremony.

Let us instead remember her companionship with joy, smile at her idiosyncrasies, and be grateful for how she enriched the lives she touched.

Jeanne Porush, Director of Dental Hygiene

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of an amazing mother, wife, dental hygienist, educator and



all around fun and loving person. After a 10-year battle with Alzheimer's, Jeanne Kaye Porush died peacefully in her sleep last September at Regency Park, Oak Knoll Senior Center in Pasadena. She was 80 years old. She is survived by her husband, two children and her sister.

Jeanne was born July 19, 1942 to Jack and Sylvia Kaye and grew up with her younger sister, Barbara Kaye Dichter, in La Crescenta.

After graduating from Glendale High School, Jeanne went on to do two years of lower division studies at the University of California, Berkeley and then finished her Bachelor's degree at the University of Southern California's school of Dental Hygiene in June of 1964.

In October of that same year, Jeanne married Allan Porush and in 1967, she had her first child, David. Two years after that, she had her daughter, Suzanne Porush.

Jeanne successfully practiced Dental Hygiene for more than 20 years. She was the President of the San Gabriel Valley Dental Hygiene Society and Vice President of the State Dental Hygiene Society and very active in both groups.

Jeanne retired from the profession due to nerve damage in her elbow and went back to school at Cal State, Los Angeles to earn an MFA as well as earning a teaching credential.

She then started her second career as an educator. Jeanne began teaching Dental Hygiene at Pasadena City College and after several years, she became the Director of PCC's Dental Hygiene Program.

After retiring, Jeanne returned to her passion in Art and was an active artist in the community making ceramics and painting in her shared studio. She also traveled the world with her husband, Allan.

Head Basketball Coach Greg Smith

Greg Smith, a head coach for 14 seasons and an assistant coach for the Pasadena City College women's basketball state championship team in 2009, died at the age of 75. Smith, who was a survivor of brain cancer, recently suffered a series of small strokes which caused a rapid decline in his health.

Smith's run as a Lancers basketball coach, included first co-head coaching with current coach Joe Peron in directing the program to their first South Coast Conference championship in 1998.

He later became a defensive/offensive strategist as an assistant for Peron during a glorious run by PCC in which it made six consecutive State Final Eight appearances between 2003-2009. With Smith assisting Peron, the Lancers twice were state runner-up in 2004 and 2005 before capturing the college's first-ever state title in women's sports in 2009, defeating San Joaquin Delta, 74-64, in the CCCAA title game.

He stepped away from coaching until returning to PCC as an assistant during the 2015-16 season.

Smith played college basketball and earned a bachelor's degree at the University of La Verne after shining as a 2-time, All-CIF star at Hemet High. He earned a master's degree at Eastern Washington University, and he was part of its 1976-77 men's basketball team as a graduate assistant coach.

Smith was excited in 2016 when he was invited back to Eastern Washington



for the induction of the 1976-77 team into the EWU Hall of Fame.

He then became head coach for four seasons at Sonoma State University, a NCAA Division III institution, making history in directing that college's first women's basketball team in 1980.

In 1982-83, his Sonoma squad was ranked in the top 10 in the nation while primarily playing against D-2 opponents.

In 1984, Smith joined PCC as a full-time instructor and head women's basketball coach. From 1984 through the 1995-96 season, Smith directed the women's basketball program for 12 seasons, including state playoff appearances in 1987 and 1990. However,

Smith's best team finished 18-6 and tied for second place in the Metropolitan Conference in 1985-86, but did not get seeded for the postseason.

Smith coached PCC Hall of Fame guard Chris Zboril in 1992-94 as well as one of the program's great offensive players in 1993 South Coast Conference Player of the Year Biljana Bosanac, who still holds the school record for rebounds (445) and average (17.1) in a season.

A resident of Sierra Madre, Smith later became an avid cyclist and helped in bringing PCC its first aerobic spinning program in the early 2000s.

He is survived by his daughter Christine and son Nate.

Carol Kaser, Admissions

Carol Kaser, who spent 20 years at PCC, passed away on Dec. 20, 2022. Carol was Supervisor of Admissions, Records and Registration. She was also in charge of Foreign Student Admissions.



Carol attended Glendale High School, and she earned a degree from the University of La Verne in 1974. After graduation, Carol began working in admissions at La Verne. She later moved on to Woodbury College and then to PCC.

Carol never married or had children. She did have a great dog named Free-way who was a spoiled pooch. Carol loved to travel and doing puzzles. She also enjoyed the regular lunches that she had with her retired colleagues.



Eugene Stough, Chief Engineer for Radio/TV

Eugene Edwin Stough died at the age of 93. Gene was born in Trinidad, CO in 1925. At a young age, his family moved to Tucson, AZ where he attended Tucson High School. After Gene graduated, he entered the Navy during WWII. While on leave, he met his wife, Charlotte Lorraine Rohrbach, and the couple was married for 68 years. After his time in the service, Gene moved to Alhambra, CA, where he attended the Electronic Technical Institute and earned his First-Class Radiotelephone License. He continued his career as a Chief Engineer in El Paso and at the University of Arizona. He then took a position in Pasadena where he built the Radio/TV department at PCC. He retired from the college in 1987 after 13 years.

After he retired, he relocated back to Tucson to be close to his children. Gene enjoyed golf and fishing with his grandchildren at his second home in Show Low, AZ. He served as an Usher at Christ Presbyterian Church. Gene was a kind and loving soul, and he will be missed by his family and many friends.

Larry Shirk Loved PCC and Radio

Larry Roy Shirk's passed away on Nov. 20, 2022 at the age of 75. He had been with Pasadena City College for 34 years and retired for 10. He died of a heart attack. Only three months earlier, he felt extreme fatigue and developed a pain in his right side. In the hospital he had an ultrasound, and they discovered a large mass in his liver. A biopsy was performed, and it was confirmed that he had stage 4 liver cancer. He began treatment and had just finished his second round of chemo.

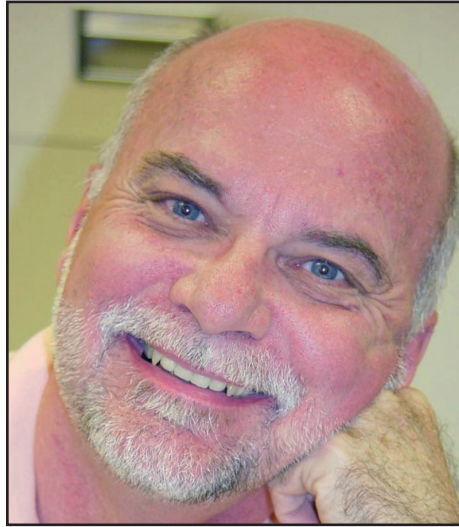
Larry was born in Michigan and adopted four days later by a family in Pella, Iowa. When he was 12, and just beginning to enter junior high school, his father announced that they were going to move to California. They settled in Pasadena. Little did he know that the junior college down the street (then Pasadena Junior College) would be central to his life for many years to come.

Following graduation from Pasadena High School, he didn't know what he wanted to do. He had loved the high school drama class. So, when he spoke with a school counselor, the counselor gave him a list of general courses that he needed to complete. After a year of college, he received a letter that stated "Greetings, Uncle Sam wants you!" He decided that the Air Force would be his number one choice, so that he could be close to home. Well, they did keep him on the West Coast—Alaska.

He returned to Pasadena Junior College and discovered that it had become Pasadena City College. He decided that he was returning to school this time because he wanted to, not because he had to. This time, he took college much more seriously.

Looking through the list of courses, he spotted Journalism and thought he might become the next Walter Cronkite. He felt he had the voice to be a good newscaster but he was worried about his thinning hair.

His friend recommended a toupee so he



thought he would give it a try. (That toupee will play an important role shortly.)

He was off to "A Survey of Telecommunications" class, which was his introduction to mass media. The instructor was a dapper looking individual who introduced himself as Dr. Gregory. Dr. Gregory soon let the class know that it would not be an easy class, and it didn't matter how much experience you had, in his eyes, you had no experience. You had to prove yourself, over and over and over. Larry worked his way up the to the Student Program Director position, and he finally earned an "A" from Dr. Gregory. He maintain a B+ grade point average, and he actually felt that he had learned something over the past two and half years and owed most of it to Dr. Gregory. He was one of those rare teachers who knew just how to challenge a person and how far to push. Not only was John a good teacher, he and Larry became had also become good friends.. Here was the man who had spoon-fed him mass media, script writing, news, sports and most importantly, he had sold him on radio. He ate and breathed radio. He was at the station

almost eight hours a day, five days a week and sometimes on the weekends. Dr. Gregory wrote a grant to The Corporation for Public Broadcasting to expand the station into a full-service public radio station. Larry loved it all. Sadly, in the late '90s the winds of change were blowing through the college, which would affect the radio station and Larry. The student station was dissolved and American Public Media took over the station and brought their staff with them so Larry was reassigned to the Purchasing Department. He adjusted to the change, and he made a slew of new friends.

Larry received his Associate of Arts Degree from PCC and, at the urging of Dr. Gregory, earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Redlands.

While working at PCC throughout the years, he made many friends of administrators, faculty and staff. One of his good friends was journalism instructor, Mikki Bolliger. At the start of every semester, she asked Larry to disrupt her class and leave quickly so that the students could learn to always pay close attention to what was going on around them. Every new semester his drama training kicked in and he came up with a different scenario each time. On one occasion, he pretended to be her husband and acted as though he was furious at her for taking everything in the divorce. He yelled, "You already took everything, you might as well take this too!" He grabbed his toupee, threw it at her and ran out the classroom door. The class was shocked, and so was Mikki. She quickly drew a chart on the blackboard to write down what students remembered. Later, he returned to the class to see the details. The description of him was never even close. What fun, and what in important lesson to learn.

Larry was a kind person with a fantastic sense of humor. He is survived by his wife of 19 years, Peggy Brikert.



Linda Winans Worked in EOP&S

Linda Winans, 75, passed away peacefully in her Cambria home in the early morning of December 10th, 2022 of natural causes.

Linda was born and raised in the San Gabriel Valley. As a young adult she moved to Hawaii where she raised her children. Linda returned to Southern California to help care for her elderly parents. She spent the rest of her adult life working for Pasadena City College.

She worked in Extended Opportunities, Programs and Services. She helped socially and educationally disadvantaged students. Upon retirement, she permanently moved

to Cambria, a place she and her family had spent many holidays over the past few decades.

Linda loved walks on the Fiscalini Ranch, and she could typically be seen with her unruly tan Lab, Maggie or with her sweet Jack Russell Terrier, Gracie; whom she adopted as a senior dog. Linda was an avid reader and loved gardening, birdwatching and nature.

She is survived by her son, Satya Christopher Bailey, daughter, Chloe Bailey, two grandsons Nick and Tim Bailey, her older brother Leroy Bailey and cousin, Roxie Gerber. She will be missed by all who knew her.