



Elise Coe

December 8, 1934 - July 14, 2019

Our beloved wife, mother and grandmother Elise “Lee” Meeker Coe, age 84, passed away peacefully with Jim, her husband of 61 years, and family by her side on July 14, 2019 in South Jordan, Utah.

Born December 1934 in New York City, Lee was eldest daughter of David Olan Meeker and Estelle Niemann Meeker. Lee had fond memories growing up on Long Island, where she spent her days clamming and learning to play the piano. She attended Greenwich High School in Connecticut and Elmira College in New York. Among her many talents, Lee was a gifted soprano and it was while performing as Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, that she met the love of her life, Jim. After marrying at Mather AFB in Sacramento in 1958 and years of traveling during military service, Jim and Lee made their home in Sacramento, CA for 47 years.

An accomplished pianist and vocalist, Lee shared her passion for music with children as choir director in Wiesbaden, Germany and for decades in Sacramento as piano and musical teacher in her home near Cottage Park, and at Pershing, Pope Avenue and Del Dayo schools in Sacramento. She sang in the choir at Arcade Baptist Church for many years.

Grounded in faith and a commitment to service, Lee led Bible studies and spearheaded a single Mothers support group. Single mothers and their children were a welcome staple in the Coe household, where Lee kept arms open to any and all who needed unconditional support and caring hugs. She provided guidance and love and served as an example of a firm faith in God and service to others through grace and charity.

Later in life, Lee served as the Northern California Director for the HUGS Project, sending care packages and homemade items like beef jerky and cool ties to U.S. Troops serving the country that she loved, and her husband Jim faithfully served, as a Lt. Colonel in the Air Force.

Committed to excellence in everything she did, not only was Lee a grammar aficionado who would correct the most mild-mannered on the use of “finished” and “done”, she was also an incredible cook, gardener, seamstress and she loved to reminisce about her skiing days in the Alps. Lee enjoyed and shared her talents of embroidery, needlepoint, knitting, and crocheting.

Lee is survived by her husband Jim and their children Maureen (William) Spence of Makawao, HI; Guy (Christine) Coe of Bremerton, WA; Wendy (Brad) Rogers of Carlsbad, CA; and Pamela (Brent) Adamson of Herriman, UT; 10 grandchildren (Lyndsey, Lachlan, Landon, Aimee, Alexander, Jackson, James, Emily, Mallory and Samuel) and 5 great grandchildren who she loved with fearless passion. She regarded her family her proudest accomplishment. Lee is preceded in death by her parents and brother David Olan Meeker, Jr. and sister Nancy Newbegin.

Lee’s extraordinary life of kindness was repaid in kind by caregivers in the last, most tender years of her life. We add a special thank you and recognition to the staff of Sagewood at Daybreak and her loving hospice team for their service over the last three years in Utah. In appreciation of their loving care and in lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations be made to your local Hospice organization.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Lee became a very dear friend the moment we met while walking our dogs at the park in Sacramento about 8 years ago. We shared many special conversations, about our dogs, our families and travel and of course life itself. I always respected her wisdom and her views as she truly had the best interest of everyone in her life in mind.

Her priority was always her family, and as a result she was blessed with a closeness that her kids and grand kids now carry on. But of course her biggest cheerleader was her husband, Jim, who has shared a long life of special memories with Lee. They traveled extensively during his military service, and later to many family events to welcome new in-laws as well as grand and great grand kids into their family.

Lee and Jim also shared some vacations with us, including time on the beach in Ft. Bragg, and a beautiful Caribbean cruise. We are also so pleased they came to visit us in Oregon.

Lee's stroke slowed her down a bit, but she was always surrounded by family and friends, even after their move to Utah. We last saw her when we visited in April, and her smile still lit up the room. She was very positive, laughed at jokes and also wanted to hear about our dogs that she remembered well. We then planned another visit in July, but sadly she passed just two days before we arrived. So we joined the family for a very lovely memorial service that also included a beautiful slide show with pictures from her long life with her large family. It was a life lived well and she will never be forgotten.

Dagmar and Hans - August 04, 2019 at 09:52 PM



“ I remember how hard Mom tried to keep a regular family time dinner going, even when Dad could not be there... In the days before cell phones, there was no avoiding our conversing with one another, with Mom as our mediator! And then when Dad was able to be there, the constant refrain was "listen to your mother!". That's how you forge good kids!

Guy Coe - July 31, 2019 at 02:28 AM



“ Guy W Coe is following this tribute.

Guy Coe - July 31, 2019 at 01:45 AM

CS

“ So sorry to hear of Elise’s passing. My heartfelt condolences to everyone in the family. She was a sweet and beautiful person.

Colin Swift - July 30, 2019 at 09:23 AM



Thank you, Colin. Blessings to you!

Guy Coe - July 31, 2019 at 02:21 AM

EN

“ Many fond memories of visiting the home of Aunt Elise and Uncle Jim in Sacramento as my own little family grew. I always enjoyed the company of my cousins when they visited us in Virginia as well. I wish you all peace and love from the Newbegin Family.

Ed Newbegin - July 29, 2019 at 09:41 PM



Thanks, Cuz!

Guy Coe - July 31, 2019 at 02:21 AM



Lee was a longtime member of The Hugs Project and I was so saddened to learn she had passed. She enjoyed sending care packages and cooling ties to men and women in our armed forces and I'm sure some of them were there to meet her on her arrival at the pearly gates.

Lee, you will be forever in our hearts as we continue to support the US Military.

Karen Stark - November 18, 2020 at 08:07 PM