



Dr. Alice Jean Longman

October 15, 1929 - September 26, 2019

Alice Jean was a native New Yorker, from Baldwin, Long Island. At an early age it was apparent that she would excel in academia, especially the sciences. She attended St. Agnes High School in Rockville Center, NY, and went on to receive her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the College of Mount St. Vincent in New York in 1951. At that time, the baccalaureate degree in nursing was just coming into its own as a first professional degree, and Alice was one of its pioneers.

She continued her education at New York University, where she received her MA in 1957. She was awarded degrees in both Masters of Education (1972) and a Doctor of Education (1974) with a focus on nursing education from Columbia University (NY) Teachers College, a leading institution for nursing education preparation at the doctoral level. During her time in New York, she also worked for the National League for Nursing as a liaison with the American Tuberculosis Association, now the American Lung Association.

After achieving her doctorate at Columbia, Alice contemplated moving away from New York. While visiting her friend Gayle Traver in Tucson, Arizona, she fell in love with the beauty of the natural desert landscape. In 1974 she was offered a teaching position in the master's degree program in nursing at the University of Arizona, and enthusiastically embraced the opportunity. She became full-time tenured faculty at U. of A., and was an excellent teacher, highly regarded by graduate students. Alice served as advisor to countless graduate students over the years, and multiple master's students requested her participation on their thesis committees. Her clinical interests centered on oncology nursing and care, focusing on some of society's most difficult and sometimes sidelined issues and underserved populations. Examples of academic papers she co-authored and advised on (available in the University of Arizona archives) include:

"Relationship of life-change, spiritual perspective, and perceived well-being to hope in adults with recurrent cancer"

"Correlates of self-transcendence in women with advanced breast cancer."

"Survival distancing: A grounded theory of living with HIV infection in rural areas"

"Surviving the storm: The experience of Desert Storm nurses"

Alice's dedication, professionalism, and caring mentorship shines through in the acknowledgement by one of them, Linda Maria Dominguez, in her thesis *The Lived Experience of Women of Mexican Heritage with HIV/AIDS*:

"My gratitude extends to Dr. Alice J. Longman. Thank you for your support, encouragement, and guidance during the many times I needed assistance. You were always available for me. "

In 1990 Alice was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (<https://www.aanet.org/home>), honoring her numerous achievements in nursing and nursing education. In 1995, Alice retired from the University of Arizona College of Nursing as Professor Emerita, an exceptional distinction granted by the University on recommendation of the retiring faculty member's College.

Alice traveled the world, both professionally and for personal learning and enjoyment. Two highlights of her professional international service were her nursing education consultation in Botswana, Africa, and her participation in 1963 with Project Hope in Trujillo, Peru (<http://www.projecthope.org/peru-2/>). Fluent in Spanish, she often traveled to Central and South American and Spain, learning and experiencing the varied and rich cultures of many different lands. Following in the footsteps of her godmother and aunt, Hazeltine Longman, Alice was accepted for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (<https://www.dar.org/>).

Her personal life was rich in relationships with friends, love of arts and culture, and her spirit of adventure. She initiated annual holiday traditions in our extended family by treating her younger cousins to special cultural destination trips: ballet performances, classical concerts, Radio City Music Hall, and art or science museums. After moving to Tucson, she filled her schedule with concerts, colloquia, film screenings, readings, art exhibitions, and all kinds of special events in the city and at the University. She enjoyed the outdoors with its scenic beauty and ever-present wildlife. Her life in Arizona was full of all kinds of activity and adventure, including hiking, backpacking, bird-watching, photography, golf, and many visits to the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Alice loved her family and was enriched by her love for animals. She provided a loving home for canine companions; her dogs were important in various stages of her life. She was an ardent supporter of the Humane Society of Southern Arizona (<https://hssaz.org>)

Above all, Alice's life was guided by her strong Roman Catholic faith. She never ceased to assert that she was a "Roman" in practicing her religious faith. She belonged to Tucson's Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Church, and also active as a mentor for Tucson's Corpus Christi Catholic Youth Group Ministry (<http://cccctucson.org/youthministry.html>). Youth

Group members enjoyed many visits with Alice and her friends at The Forum, where they played board games, shared stories, and the teens displayed their musical talents to the great enjoyment of the residents. The teens in the group loved and appreciated Alice, saying “She always greeted us warmly, making us feel welcome. She would sit front and center when we performed our concert programs there, beaming with encouragement!”

Alice is survived by her brother, Walter John Longman; her cousins, Nancie Beste, Martica Lager, Barbara Swingle, and Sarah J. Lager-O’Brien; her second cousins Stacey Mentlick, Michelle Bartlett, Deborah Duffy, Tricia Cavanaugh, Valerie Magro, Kathi Beste, Stacey Beste Gerson, Eric Beste; and many friends and professional colleagues.

A Celebration of Life is being planned and will take place in Tucson, AZ in spring 2020.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Alice’s name to support one of her favorite organizations:

~ Project Hope (<https://www.projecthope.org>)

~ Tucson’s Corpus Christi Catholic Youth Group Ministry (<http://cccctucson.org/youthministry.html>)

~ Humane Society of Southern Arizona (<https://hssaz.org/help/donate/>)

~ University of Arizona’s School of Nursing Faculty Memorial Scholarship fund (<https://www.uafoundation.org/netcommunity/page.aspx?pid=493&fid=abBTvYFZRy0%3d&fdesc=ac7QUOasgUGsPNPfguSg%2frOk3BNAD6IFz%2btEQZ%2b83jJBT0hpBRxwLRdHkWan1dHc>)

<http://speedway.tucson.com/classifieds/obituaries/submit.php>

Comments



“ Alice changed my life when, as a lost and bewildered graduate nursing student, she encouraged me to enroll into the cancer nursing specialist course. Alice was more than my professor, she became a family and personal friend. She spent Christmas mornings at my house for many years watching gifts being opened. Over the years, Alice and I attended oncology nursing conferences and served on professional committees. We even lived in the same town-home community. Alice served as substitute grandmother for my daughters in grade school. She sat in the hospital waiting room, waiting for me to get out of surgery, then attended to me once I returned home. We shared many personal and professional endeavors together and I and my family shall miss her very much.

Marcia Rostad - February 04, 2020 at 05:41 PM



“ SAVE THE DATE | Celebration of Alice Jean Longman
April 1, 2020 | 11:00 a.m.
Mass will be celebrated at Corpus Christi Church
300 North Tanque Verde Loop Road, Tucson, AZ 85748 | (520) 751-4235

Kathi - January 21, 2020 at 01:05 PM



“ Alice was a member of our book club at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for about ten years until she moved to the Forum. Alice first came with a neighbor of hers, Mary. She really enjoyed when we read a biography or a historical fiction book.

Thanks for this tribute to Alice. We knew she was accomplished, but wow we didn't know the half of it. We were sad when she moved to the forum and would no longer be able to attend our meetings. It was great seeing a young Alice in the pictures posted.

Please let us know when you have a memorial service for her.

Katrina Lantz

Klantz@comcast.net

Katrina Lantz - January 15, 2020 at 11:08 PM



Cecilia Olivo writes:

"Like Alice, I'm also from Baldwin. One of my closest friend's mother was friends with Alice's mother.

"I first met Alice when she was an instructor in the Plattsburgh nursing program at Metropolitan Hospital in NYC. She then lived with my close friend, Sally Felton O'Donnell, and Marcie Ryan. She was also my older son's (David) Godmother. She often came to visit us: once when my husband was stationed in Puerto Rico; and another very important time to support me, when I had just received a devastating diagnosis of melanoma.

"I saw her numerous times when we had our reunions at Sally O'Donnell's house. She was also at both of my sons' weddings. I attended her 70th birthday at Tavern On The Green in NYC. I'm so glad we always kept in touch, and I will miss her. She had a wonderful life, and accomplished many great things."



Cecelia - January 09, 2020 at 04:17 PM



“ Mr. Frank Harrigan writes:

"I was saddened to learn about Alice, a friend of many years. I think it goes back to around 1960. I was a one-man insurance company, and she was referred to me by a young lady from Rye who had met her in New York City. I knew Alice even before she went to South America with the “Hope” ship, where she stayed up in the mountains for a year, assisting in giving medical help to the people there.

"Over the years we had a lot of laughs. I lived in the suburbs (Rye), my office was in a town called Larchmont. I remember Alice had a good friend, Marcie Ryan. Alice lived on 81st Street in New York City, and I insured her household and personal property. Her friend Marcie had a motor scooter and drove it to work downtown! And many times, right into the passenger elevator at work!! They quite a group of fun firends.....Alice, Marcie, and a few more...

"Alice was a great fan and competitor in the sport of golf. She came out one summer and went with me to the Westchester Country Club, where we saw Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and others compete in a televised golf tournament. A great fun time!

"We certainly will miss her, and remember her in our prayers."

Frank Harrigan - January 06, 2020 at 04:18 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kathi - October 14, 2019 at 12:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Martica Lager Foy - October 06, 2019 at 04:53 PM



“ Alice Jean looking wonderful at the 2003 wedding in London of Robert Foy and Martica Lager.

Martica Lager - October 06, 2019 at 05:01 PM



“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Kathi - October 06, 2019 at 03:03 PM