



## Caryl L. Travnick

April 12, 2025

Caryl Lenore (Lee) Travnick, “Grammy” to her family, passed away peacefully early Saturday morning, April 12th, 2025. Lee was 90 years young and still living in her long-time home in Fort Collins, CO when she passed from natural causes. The good Lord has called her home.

Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on May 18th, 1934, during the middle of the Great Depression, Lee had an exciting childhood as she, her older brother (Charles M. Ross, Jr.), and her mother (Jaunita L. Ross, “Mammaw”), accompanied her father (Charles M. Ross, “Pappaw”), a decorated World War I combat veteran and trained geologist, all across the Midwest and western United States exploring for oil reserves for Amerada Hess Corporation (now Hess Oil). Lee’s family permanently settled in Tulsa when she and her brother attended school at Lanier Jr. High and Will Rogers High School. Tulsa held a very special place in her heart, as it does to all of her family to this day.

Lee attended Tulsa University (TU) where she met the love of her life, William (Bill) E. Travnick (“Grampy”). Bill was from Chicago, Illinois and was recruited to play football at TU for the Golden Hurricanes. It was a storybook romance. Love at first sight. Bill was the football team captain and Lee was the Homecoming Queen. They were married on January 22, 1955, and were inseparable for the next 61 years until Bill’s passing on November 9th, 2016.

Together, Lee and Bill raised four children (Terri L. Anderson (Steve), William R. (Deb), James C. and Thomas J.) as they moved about the country following Bill's work (sound familiar?). Together, they made loving homes in Tulsa; Doraville, GA; Yorktown Heights, NY; Rockford, IL; Wausau, WI; Novato, CA and Great Falls, VA, and eventually retiring in Fort Collins. Lee was a very involved mom throughout the years she was raising her children. She was a school volunteer, a field trip chaperone, a Cub Scout and Girl Scout leader, and a loyal fan at too many wrestling matches, baseball and football games to count. Lee also had a wonderful career after the children were older as the Executive Assistant to the Director of the Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Association. The household never was without a special pet, or multiple pets, including beloved dogs, cats, and even guinea pigs, rabbits and gerbils. Lee truly had a wonderful life and she was the first one to tell you that. Lee had the joy of life-long friends and neighbors from all the places they lived. She looked forward to spending time with her dear friends from book club, Mexican Train, and water aerobics in Fort Collins.

Lee is survived by their daughter Terri (Steve), son William (Deb), 8 grandchildren (Elizabeth, Danielle, Will, Kaylee, Melissa (Minas), Megan (Beau), Dane (Ashley) and Paige (John), and 13 great-grandchildren (Waylon, Colton, Dylan, Layton, Karyn, Malryk, Savannah, Brooks, Hudson, Ella, Jace, Bennett and Sophie). Lee is also survived by her nieces, Cheryl Westfall (Chris) and Cindy Ross and her nephews Brian Ross (Tiffany) and Scott Travnick (Judy) and their families. Lee was preceded in death by her parents; brother and sons, Jim and Tom Travnick; as well as her husband, Bill Travnick.

Services for Lee will be at Saint Joseph Catholic Parish (300 W. Mountain Street) in Fort Collins on May 1st, 2025, at 9:30AM. A lunch reception will follow in the church's Meridith Hall. Lee's final internment at Grandview Cemetery (1900 W. Mountain Ave, Fort Collins), next to her beloved husband

and sons, will immediately follow the reception. Goes Funeral Home will be handling services.

Lee's favorite color was blue, so feel free to wear anything blue if you choose.

The Travnick and Anderson families express our sincere gratitude to all the friends, caregivers and medical professionals who helped make Lee's last days comfortable and peaceful. Prayers and good wishes are what Lee would appreciate so much, but if you wish to send flowers, please send to St. Joseph Catholic Parish. Donations may be sent to St. Joseph Catholic Parish, St. Jude Research Hospital or Colorado Talking Book Library.

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 1. 9:30 AM (MT)

Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
300 West Mountain Avenue  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

## Burial

MAY 1. 12:30 PM (MT)

Grandview Cemetery  
1900 West Mountain Avenue  
Fort Collins, CO 80521  
<http://www.fcgov.com/parks/grandview.php>

# Tribute Wall

EJ

“ *Ellie Jones lit a candle and said a prayer for Lee. Thank you for sending us that beautiful sunshine that shone through on us in a dark sky filled with gray clouds to let us know your love will be with us on our daily travels. I will never look at a chocolate chip cookie the same way without thinking of you!*

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**Ellie Jones** - May 07, 2025 at 08:37 AM

EJ

“ *I wanted the family to know what a blessing it was for me to be able to share and help with Lee on a daily basis. I wanted you to know how fiercely she loved all of her kids, grandkids and great grand kids. She shared so many stories of you all with me, of all the places you lived and the travels she shared. You all are so blessed to have had that love in your lives and the memories of her wonderful unique humor. I will miss her but also will cherish the time I shared with her.*

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**Ellie Jones** - May 07, 2025 at 08:31 AM

KW

“ *Lee was a coworker of mine from MD & VA Milk Producers. She was a wonderful woman who had a positive insight about everything. She remained strong after the death of her youngest son, Tom. I will always remember her kindheartedness. Rest in Peace, Lee!*

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**Ken Wiencko** - April 29, 2025 at 05:43 PM

TA

*Ken, thank you so much for your kind words about our mom. She so loved her time at Maryland and Virginia and the people she worked with. Bless you for reaching out. Sincerely, Terri Anderson, Bill Travnick and all of Lee's family.*

**Terri Anderson** - May 05, 2025 at 12:27 AM

TR

“ *Let me start by saying anyone who knew Lee was so blessed to have her as friend. She was such a lovely and kind hearted person. Our friendship has been as neighbors for over 20 years. We car pooled many times together over the years to our monthly card group and had many fun conversations about family and friends. I will miss her so terribly much. Rest in peace my dear friend. 💕*  
*Terrie Roberts*

**Terrie Roberts** - April 29, 2025 at 08:26 AM

TA

*Thank you, Terrie. She spoke of your friendship so often. We appreciate you sharing. Sincerely, Terri, Bill and families*

**Terri Anderson** - May 05, 2025 at 12:29 AM

GC

“ *1 file added to the album Lee Travnick photos*



**Ginny Conahan** - April 28, 2025 at 04:06 PM

GC

“ Lee was such a great friend. She always had such a happy smile. She loved to talk about her kids and grandkids. Just last month, she was at a St. Patrick's Day party with the book club ladies, having a great time. We love her and will miss her so much.



**Ginny Conahan** - April 28, 2025 at 03:59 PM

TA

*Priceless picture! Thank you for sharing it, Ginny! It just shows how much fun you girls always had. Mom adored her time with you all!  
Sincerely, Terri, Bill and families*

**Terri Anderson** - May 05, 2025 at 12:32 AM

TR

“ Terrie Roberts lit a candle in memory of Caryl Travnick



**Terrie Roberts** - April 28, 2025 at 03:18 PM