



Leonora "Lee" Aronow

January 1, 1801 - October 12, 2020

Lee Aronow, 86, of Corvallis passed away peacefully October 12, 2020.

Leonora Joan was born to Saul and Josephine Kaufman and grew up in Teaneck, New Jersey, graduating from Teaneck High School in 1952. She attended New York University before transferring to Northwestern University, graduating in 1956. She married Eugene Morton Aronow in December 1955. She worked as a first-grade teacher as Gene finished his medical training. Gene enlisted as an army doctor and was stationed in France for several years, where the young couple welcomed their first daughter, Beth. Back in the United States, they welcomed their second daughter, Lisa, and settled in Old Bethpage, New York, where they remained throughout Gene's career as an internist/gastroenterologist.

After receiving a master's degree from Adelphi University, Lee worked as the clinic administrator for Planned Parenthood of Nassau County. In addition to working and bringing up her girls, Lee developed a lifelong love of creative activities, ranging from quilting to weaving to fiber arts to writing, before settling on making art dolls as her true artistic calling. Her dolls were each unique, compelling mixed media creations imbued with emotion and expression.

Lee and Gene were doting grandparents to Lisa's two daughters and moved to Corvallis to be closer to them in 2003. Throughout the girls' childhoods, Lee was always up for coloring mandalas or another sewing project. To their delight, she kept a jar of Hershey's kisses handy at all times. Lee volunteered at the Corvallis Arts Center, joined the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, and had several long-standing groups of friends who met regularly to do art together.

From her own childhood collie to her young family's Wheaten Terrier to the poodles she rescued in Corvallis, no dog was ever so lucky as the ones Lee nurtured. She continued to enjoy interacting with dogs to the very end of her life.

She is preceded in death by her husband Gene Aronow and brother Arthur Kaufman. She is survived by her sister Marcia (Robert) Kosson of Easthampton, Massachusetts; daughter Bethany Aronow of Boulder, Colorado; daughter Lisa Frothingham and son-in-law Eddie Frothingham of Corvallis; granddaughter Emma Frothingham of San Carlos, California; granddaughter Julia Frothingham of Northampton, Massachusetts; and many nieces and nephews.

Lee's family would like to offer sincere thanks to the staff at The Corvallis Caring Place and the staff at Regent Court Senior Living for the loving care given to Lee during her last years.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Corvallis Arts Center or Emily's List in Lee's honor. Messages or memories of Lee can be left at www.demossturidan.com/obituaries/

Comments



“ I was so sad to learn of Lee's passing. We were both members of the Huntington Women's Center and so many of my wonderful memories have her name on them. She and Gene were always warm, welcoming, funny and generous to me. I think of them often - Gene introduced me to his bread making machine with the most delicious grilled swiss sandwich sprinkled with rosemary, while Lee would tell me stories of her grandmother who would tell her, "What could be bad? It's got all good ingredients." Lee wrote one of my all time favorite essays, about shopping for the perfect handbag - she had me on the floor with laughter. I'm so sorry I won't get the chance to hear her laughter again. Only in my dreams. I share your sorrow at losing her, and celebrate that I got to call her a friend. She is missed.

Linda Davies - November 05, 2020 at 09:17 AM



“ I always enjoyed being in Lee's presence. There was always curiosity in the air. And support. Great support.

Laurie Barshay - October 24, 2020 at 11:30 PM



“ When Lee moved to Corvallis to be close to Lisa and her family, I think one of the first things she did was join our painting group with Darryla. I loved her unabashed enthusiasm and creativity. And I was amazed by her ability to express herself through making "dolls"/soft sculpture. Each one embodied a story she was telling.

She had a lively curiosity and we had many great conversations (and much laughter) about books, politics and art. And, of course, updates on her beloved grandchildren Emma and Julia. I heard many stories and saw many photos of them as they grew up, including their forays into art and making mandalas!

My condolences to Lisa and Eddie, Beth, Emma and Julia and to all who knew and loved Lee. I miss her.

Love, Jenny (Ayotte)

Jennifer Ayotte - October 22, 2020 at 12:04 PM



“ Monica lit a candle in memory of Leonora "Lee" Aronow



Monica - October 21, 2020 at 05:06 PM



“ Knowing Lee added enormously to my life. She was a very special person to me in so many ways. I cherished my friendship with her and will always keep her in my heart. She was always willing to share her home, stories, her life, humor, art supplies, love and a hug. I am so glad to have known her and to spend many hours in her good company. RIP Lee, Godspeed on your next journey. I know you are sitting at an art table somewhere or with crocheting (or a dog) in your lap! Much love to you, Monica

Monica - October 21, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories of Lee



Lisa Frothingham - October 19, 2020 at 02:41 PM



“ Those are the smiling faces I remember. They introduced me to the delights of Backsaver chairs, grilled swiss cheese sandwiches, Proprioceptive Writing and more wonderful memories than there are stars in the heavens. They're both very much with me when I share the stories. Wonderful, irreplaceable people.

Linda - November 05, 2020 at 09:21 AM



“ 4 files added to the album Memories of Lee



Lisa Frothingham - October 19, 2020 at 02:40 PM



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Lisa Frothingham - October 19, 2020 at 02:39 PM



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Lisa Frothingham - October 19, 2020 at 02:36 PM



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Lisa Frothingham - October 19, 2020 at 02:34 PM



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Lisa Frothingham - October 19, 2020 at 02:33 PM



“ Great photos, Lisa. Thanks so much for sharing. My condolences to you and your family.

Monica - October 21, 2020 at 05:17 PM



“ Thank you for the photos, Lisa. I remember when your mom showed us her wedding dress. If I recall correctly, it was a short cocktail dress in a ridiculously tiny size which we all giggled over. She was always ready to laugh, and always so generous to me. We shared a room for a course at Omega one summer and it was like having a kid's pajama party, but with alcohol. lol She was the best!

Linda - November 05, 2020 at 09:24 AM