

# Local Deaths

## Marjorie D. Joseph

Sept. 2, 1924 – Aug. 15, 2019

Longtime Resident of Alameda

Marjorie "Marge" Joseph a longtime Alameda resident of Fernside passed away on Aug. 15, 2019, at Park Bridge Convalescent Home where she had been living since 2012. She was just two weeks shy of her 95th birthday.



Marge was born Marjorie Dorothy Farenholz on Sept. 2, 1924, to Eula and Emile Farenholz in St. Louis, Mo. Growing up she was active in both the Lutheran Church and Job's Daughters.

In 1937, at age 13, she met Ralph "Joe" Joseph and they began dating. After their first date Joe told Marge's Mom he was going to marry her. When asked if Marge knew about this, Joe replied "No, but I will tell her when the time is right." They dated for the next three years but agreed to see other people when Joe joined the National Guard in 1940 and shipped out to Little Rock Ark. They wrote letters and stayed in touch.

The story goes that she was sitting on another boy's lap in the parlor when her Mom came in to tell her that Ralph was on the phone from San Francisco where he was stationed in the Army. He said, "Hey why don't you come out to California and let's get married." She agreed and then had to go back in and tell her dejected date that he

should probably go home because she was getting married!

She and Joe were married and had two sons Donald Harold (1944) and Geary William (1947). During World War II and following they lived in Alameda (twice), Stockton, St. Louis, Cheyenne, Wyo., Lodi and Calexico, Calif. In 1958 they returned to Alameda and lived on Briggs Avenue before buying their final forever home on Yale Drive, four years later. In 1962 they had their third son, Philip Albert.

Professionally Marge had many jobs not the least of which was wife and homemaker. She worked for many years for the Garfinkle Family at Clamp Swing Pricing Company on Blanding Avenue as a bookkeeper. Her final job was office manager for Doctor Thomas Schmitz, the then-orthopedic surgeon for the Golden State Warriors and owner of Courthouse Athletic Club on Telegraph in Oakland. Not a big basketball fan herself, she was nonplussed as the likes of Purvis Short, Bernard King and World B Free, sauntered through the office.

In civic work she was always active in PTA when her children were in school, and at First Presbyterian Church on Santa Clara Avenue in town where she and Joe served as both Elders and Deacons

as well as many other committees and ministries.

Following her Jobs Daughters upbringing she was active in Eastern Star and the DeMolay Mother Club. She was also a member of the Alameda Adelpian Club, Prather Memorial Home Guild and a loyal member of the Water Exercise Techniques program which provides low-impact water exercises.

Marge was preceded in death by her father Emile in 1936, her mother Eula and stepfather Jack Anderson in 1961, her older sister Pauline Hall in 1974, her husband Ralph in 2002 and her eldest son Donald in 2013.

She is survived by her son Geary and his daughter Christina Marie, and her son Donald, grandson Stephen Donald Joseph, (Julie) and their children: Andrew Stewart, Madison Mae and Owen Patrick; granddaughter Allison Marie and her sons Alexander Joseph and Patrick James as well as daughter Sophie Marjorie; grandson Geary Martin Joseph (Amy) and their children: Ashley Rae, Bradley Dean and Brodie Glen and great-great grandchildren: Alexandria Ann Marie, Lucas James and Benjamin Joseph.

Marge was interred on Sept. 6 at Olivet Memorial Park in Colma. Family and friends are invited to attend a memorial service this Saturday, Sept. 21, at 2 p.m. at Greer Family Mortuary and Cremation Services, 2694 Blanding Ave.

Condolences may be made to the family at [www.greermortuary.com](http://www.greermortuary.com).

Greer Family Mortuary & Cremation Services FD-1408  
[greermortuary.com](http://greermortuary.com) 865-3755

## Lynn Lannes Parks

Lynn Lannes Parks was born Nov. 23, 1940, in New Orleans, La., and died Aug. 21, 2019, in Alameda. She was predeceased by her husband of 38 years, John D Parks Jr., and is survived by her son John Dalton Parks III (Lisa) of Tualatin, Ore., daughter Holly Lannes Parks of Alameda and sister Cynthia Westergaard of Atlanta, Ga.



Lynn was a resident of Birmingham, Ala., and was an employee of McDonald Investments before retiring to Alameda.

She was an active volunteer and supporter of the arts. A lover of adventure, she was an avid traveler

and enjoyed many trips in the U.S. and abroad with family and friends. A proficient needle pointer, she worked commissioned canvases.

Lynn was a member of St. Barnabas Catholic Church in Alameda and St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Mountain Brook, Ala. A memorial mass will be held on Friday, Oct. 11, at St. Barnabas Catholic Church in Alameda at 2 p.m.

## Christopher Andrew March

Born Feb. 25, 1963, in Alameda, Christopher Andrew March was a fashion and costume designer, best known for appearing as a contestant on Bravo's *Project Runway*.

March designed costumes for the long-running musical revue, *Beach Blanket Babylon* in San Francisco. His client list included: Madonna, Cirque du Soleil, Prince, Beyoncé, Lady Gaga and Meryl Streep.

He passed on Sept. 5, 2019.

## Manager: Discusses the Island City

Continued from page 1

The most recent count of the homeless in Alameda showed approximately 230 homeless individuals in the community — a 13 percent increase over the last count. Countywide the increase has been closer to 40 to 45 percent of the homeless population. Alameda's increase in homelessness has been less, but the city is still trying to address it. We have done so in a variety of ways.

For instance, the city opened a warming shelter with volunteers providing meals and other support. The shelter opened for 50 nights and served 200 individuals. The city has received a \$750,000 grant, and part of that grant is to work with nonprofits, such as Operation Dignity.

We're trying to open a day center so the homeless can

receive services during the day. Sometimes residents see homelessness as an impact on their quality of life based on problems that occur. We continuously work on mitigating quality-of-life issues for other residents.

**Sun:** Are you looking forward to your talk with the Chamber of Commerce tomorrow? What will be the focus of that talk for folks who may not be able to attend?

**Levitt:** It'll be the first update in front of the state manager. In that particular presentation, what I like to do is a compilation, letting out the five goals of the Council. How we have been working on implementation strategies toward meeting those quality-of-life goals and values Council laid out as a vision back in March.

Since it's a Chamber event I'll also focus on economic develop-

ment and how we are trying to add high-quality jobs in the city. I will also touch on the Climate Action Resilience Plan and our initial implementation towards that and addressing transportation via the transportation plan.

**Sun:** What do you like to do when you're not working?

**Levitt:** I have a family with two sons, one of whom is a seventh grader in the community. He plays sports, so I enjoy supporting his activities as well as my older son's activities. We live here in Alameda, so we enjoy attending local events. Family is extremely important to me, and balancing family and work is extremely important. We try to get out in the community and get to events.

Jessica Mei is an Alameda Sun intern. She can be reached at [editor@alamedasun.com](mailto:editor@alamedasun.com).

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**Diane Hayes** Owner

As the proprietor of one of the last original shade shops, Diane Hayes has continued the family business with resounding success, offering a wide range of authentic Victorian window shades both locally and nationally with the aid of her website, [shadeshop.com](http://shadeshop.com). Her business prides itself in its offering of a wide range of antique and modern styles reflecting the local flora of tastes, and its dedication to customer service. Diane's background as a machinist and her contractor's experience ensures that she will not sell a product that she does not stand behind. Besides her hand-crafted roller shades, Diane's shade shop offers all forms of window coverings to her local customers - anything from drapes to verticals, and everything in between. Because of her investment in the community, Diane urges customers to come into the shop and see for themselves her full and stunning gallery of window coverings.

Alameda Shade Shop • 522-0633  
914 Central Ave. • [www.alamedashadeshop.com](http://www.alamedashadeshop.com)

**Diana Redding** Attorney-at-Law

Diana Redding, J.D., L.L.M., M.B.A. is an Attorney who practices law in the areas of Estate Planning, Probate, Trust and Probate Litigation. Diana offers practical advice to assist her clients. Diana is a member of the Alameda County Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service (LRS). Most LRS referrals are low income which gives Diana an opportunity to give back to her local community. Diana provides a free initial half hour consultation. Diana attended Golden Gate University in San Francisco, where she received her J.D., M.B.A. and L.L.M. degrees. Diana holds a black belt in Karate and is also an avid runner.

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# ISLAND CITY BUSINESS PROFILES

**Dennis Evanovsky** Publisher

Alameda residents know Dennis Evanovsky as the Publisher of the Alameda Sun. He is the author of 13 books on local history, many of which are for sale at the Alameda Sun office or at [alamedasun.com/bookstore](http://alamedasun.com/bookstore). The former president of Alameda Museum, Dennis helps local business owners promote themselves in the Alameda community through advertising in the Sun and can help in other ways as well. Dennis and his business partner Eric Kos will happily read over any written correspondence to help ensure its professionalism, or review articles and manuscripts from budding writers. The duo has also begun offering research services for investigations into local family history using the many tools at their disposal. Want to know more about your ancestors or the people who built the house you live in? Dennis (and Eric) can help. To find out more about these new services, call 510-263-1470 today.

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**Eric Kos** Publisher

Alameda residents know Eric J. Kos as the Publisher of the Alameda Sun. He is a graduate of Rhode Island School of Design and the co-founder of the paper Alameda has loved for the past 17 years. He has contributed as publisher or co-author to 13 local history books, many of which are for sale at the Sun office or at [alamedasun.com/bookstore](http://alamedasun.com/bookstore). Eric is a past president of the Greater Alameda Business Association. Eric helps local business owners promote themselves in the Alameda community through advertising in the Sun and can help in other ways as well. Eric and the Sun's graphic designer Colin Close are both available to support local businesses with graphic design services and consultation. These two have been working in the advertising industry for decades and have many insights into constructing a successful marketing campaign. Need a logo design, original illustration or other original artwork? Eric (and Colin) can help. To find out more about the Alameda Sun's graphic design and illustration services, call 510-263-1472 today.

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