



## Joan H Swanger

March 16, 1934 - September 14, 2020

Joan Swanger, 86, passed away peacefully at home on September 14, 2020. She was born in Inglewood, California, to George and Olive (Lute) Bunker. An only child, she was much loved by her parents and had a happy childhood. She developed a life-long friendship with neighbors Donna and Pat Logan (both of whom predeceased her). As an adult, Donna researched the Logan family's genealogy and then started on Joan's family ancestry only to learn that their Bunker and Logan ancestors were on the Mayflower. They marveled at the possibility of two childhood friends in California both having ancestors on a ship with only 102 passengers arriving on the opposite coast more than 300 years earlier.

Joan attended UCSB, joined the Delta Zeta sorority, and graduated with a degree in Early Childhood Education. Joan moved to Sarasota in 1967. She taught kindergarten, initially at First Presbyterian Church, and later at public schools Bay Haven and Fruitville Elementary, with her own children attending the latter. She retired in 1998.

When younger, she had been a Girl Scout and then became a leader when her daughters were in Girl Scouts. At one time, Joan had also been an active member of the Bee Ridge Junior Women's Club.

She was an active member of the United Presbyterian Church of the Palms. When her children were young, she taught Sunday School. Later on, Joan played in the Jubilee Handbell Choir. She particularly liked interacting with residents of The Haven, a local group home for adults with disabilities, who came to the church.

Joan loved music. She could play the accordion and the piano. Joan sang with the Pine Tones, volunteers who sing for seniors at the Pines of Sarasota. And she was a long-time season ticket holder at The Players. Joan liked playing Bunco and card games with her friends. At home, she enjoyed reading and solving various word puzzles.

Joan is preceded in death by her son Roger Swanger. She is survived by daughter Kathy

(Greg) Orchard, daughter Laurie Wragg, son Glenn Swanger, daughter-in-law Lillian Swanger, and grandchildren Travis, Peter, Katie, and Nicholas Swanger.

She considered her family to be her greatest accomplishment. Joan was proud to be a mother and a grandmother. Joan was a person who always saw the best in others. She loved freely (though quietly) and was loved dearly in return.

On September 14, 2020, Joan left this world in the same way she lived her life, quietly and gently. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. located at 135 N Lime Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34237. 941-365-1767  
[www.gendronfuneralhome.com](http://www.gendronfuneralhome.com)

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