



## Janice Melcher Lewis

October 18, 2017

Janice Melcher Lewis, loving wife of Stuart Bruch Lewis for 58 years, died on October 18, 2017. She was born in 1936 in Englewood, NJ, daughter of Russell Englis Melcher and Elizabeth Arnold Melcher. Much of her childhood was spent in Miami Beach, FL, long before the area was commercialized. Janice was a graduate of St. Margaret's School in Waterbury, CT and Wells College where she received a B.A. in Biology.

Upon graduation, Janice worked for Sloan Kettering Institute, followed by number of positions that reflected her intellectual curiosity and many talents. She taught English in Laredo, TX, was a docent at the Noah Webster House, and taught colonial cooking at the Stanley Whitman House. Janice was a Girl Scout leader for 15 years and co-founded the Lewis & Clapp advertising agency. She was a licensed real estate broker, working for the Wallace Company for many years and served as Corporate Secretary of The Harvey & Lewis Company. Janice served on a number of boards, including the PTA and YMCA and was a member of the Founders Club and the College Club of Hartford. In addition, Janice pursued many hobbies including sewing, quilting, cooking, painting, and woodworking. Above all, Janice's boundless energy and passion was most apparent in her love and devotion for her adoring family and wide circle of friends. She was the heart of every holiday and family celebration. She will be sorely missed and leaves a legacy of love and a lifetime of incredible memories.

In addition to her loving husband Stuart of 58 years, she is survived by her children, James Lewis and his wife Lynn of Simsbury, Jeanne Lewis of West Hartford, Susan Mather and her husband Linwood III, of Canton, Cynthia Lewis and Sigmund von Hunnius of Charlestown, MA, and her adoring grandchildren, Hallie, Buck and Cooper Mather, Evelyn Lewis, and Sophia, Luke and Anneliese von Hunnius. Calling hours will be held Friday, November 3 from 4:00 - 7:00 at Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, 136 South Main Street, West Hartford. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 on Saturday, November 4 at the First Church of Christ Congregational, 12 South Main Street, West Hartford. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. For online condolences and directions please visit [www.taylorandmodeen.com](http://www.taylorandmodeen.com)

# Events

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**NOV** **Calling Hours** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

**3**  
Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home  
1084 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, CT, US, 06110

**NOV** **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

**4**  
First Church of Christ Congregational  
12 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT, US, 06107

# Comments

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“ What a wonderful woman, mom, and grandmother. I especially loved watching her interact with her youngest grandchild, Anneliese. There's so much I didn't know about her!  
I'll miss you, Mrs. Lewis -- I always loved seeing and spending time with you. Hugs to your whole family. xxoo

**Melissa Crocker** - November 22, 2017 at 06:50 PM

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“ Dear Jim, Lynn, Jeanne and family,  
  
I only recently heard of the passing of Janice, and wanted to offer my condolences and sympathies. She sounds like she had quite a life and must have been an amazing person. I can imagine your sense of loss. She also has a great smile!  
  
Hope to see you, soon. Best wishes.

**Gary Jacobs** - November 09, 2017 at 11:13 AM

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“ Our family has been blessed to know the Lewis family and to have been neighbors on Tonset Road in Orleans for close to 20 years. Summer wasn't really officially summer until we saw Jinx and Stu had arrived and knew their wonderful kids and grandkids would soon follow. Jinx had an incredible spirit, amazing energy and such a positive outlook --- we will miss her very much. She was a real gem and we send all of our love, best wishes and hope for wonderful memories to all of her family!

**The Luddy-Spiegel Family** - November 02, 2017 at 05:03 PM

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“ As a friend of Janice's daughter, Susie, I don't think there was a time when I spoke to Janice that we weren't at some large gathering...typically with loads of boisterous children running around us. I was always struck by her genuine demeanor of poise and enthusiasm. Typically, those traits don't go hand in hand, and yet Janice always displayed them both beautifully and simultaneously. She was joyous and unflappable. It was great for all of Susie's friends, especially when we were rookie moms of busy, young families to see a mother who had done it all and radiated a sense of grace and an enduring passion for life and love for her family and friends. We will miss her steady smile and calm encouragement.

**Mary Engvall - Canton, CT** - October 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ Jinx, as I knew her, when we both worked as realtors at the Wallace Company in West Hartford. She was always a pleasant person to be with and had a captivating smile....a lovely lady. Sympathy to her family.

**Constance (Connie) Norton - Avon, CT** - October 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ Janice was a wonderful person, I hope that you can find some comfort in your many special memories and in the thought of the happy years you shared. I had known her through Quilt clubs, and the beautiful work she had done and shared with others. She will be missed.

**Dawn Grady - Kensington - Friend** - October 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM