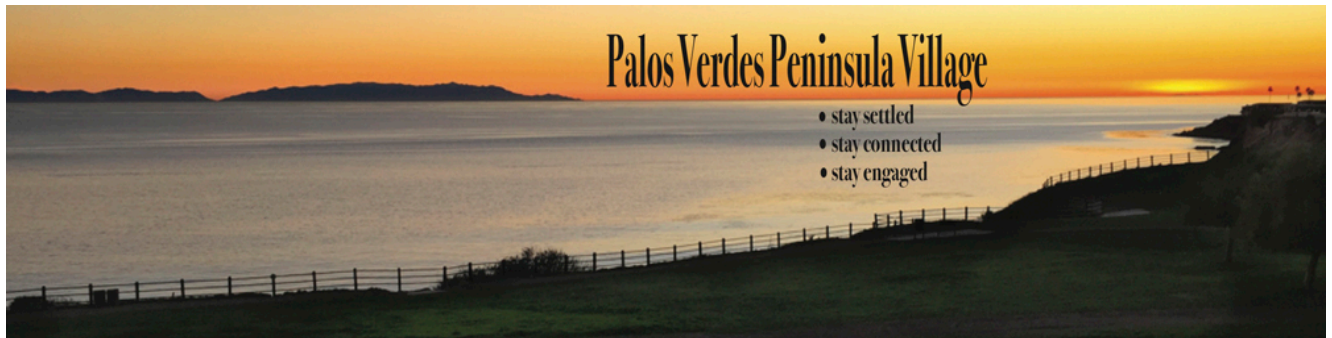




SHERRY MAY

Palos Verdes Peninsula Village Dedication to Sherry May

*Say not in grief that she is no more
But say in thankfulness that she was*



*Those we love don't go away; they walk beside us every day,
unseen, unheard, but always near,
still loved, still missed and very dear. (Anonymous)*

We have lost a dear friend and the guiding light of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village. Sherry's vision of the Village as a community of older adults supporting one another, enjoying outings and gatherings together, and learning together will be sustained as we move forward carrying her memory in our hearts.

Remembering Sherry

How do we remember Sherry? In so many ways you have reflected your memories:

“We are richer because we knew her.”

“Thank you Sherry for your inspiration in life’s paths.”

“Thank you for all the lives you have touched and made better.”

“You have strength just by being who you are.”

“You are the heart and soul of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village.”

Sherry was “a source of strength and love”.

Sherry demonstrated “clear-headed tenacity”.

Sherry “lived each day to the fullest with curiosity, total involvement, and willingness.”

“When Sherry speaks, we all listen.”

Volunteering

Sherry was a volunteer extraordinaire. She has supported Rainbow Services and Los Angeles Women’s Foundation. She was a Hospice volunteer and provided a service, “Compassionate touching massage”, to hospice participants who requested it.

Sherry and Bill

Sherry and Bill, a retired USC professor of medical ethics, have had a magical marriage. It has been inspiring to watch the love and respect they have shown each other and their children over the years. Karen and Steve reciprocated their parents’ feelings. They and their spouses were with Sherry and Bill and communicated with us through Caring Bridge during Sherry’s illness. They were amazing.

Sherry loved to travel, most recently to Iran, an incredible odyssey with a travel group from Stanford University. She and Bill have traveled as faculty members of the University of Pittsburg Semester at Sea program. The courses Sherry taught at sea were *Religions of the World and Women and Sexuality*.

The Status of Women Award presented to Sherry

In 2015 Sherry received the highest award presented by the American Association of University Women, an award that recognizes women who have had a positive impact in the community and who have made a difference in the lives of women and families.

Sherry’s Academic Background

Sherry has a PhD in Historical Theology from Drew University. She graduated magna cum laude and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

She was a member of the Religious Studies Department at Cal State Northridge and taught at Cal State Long Beach. She served as Dean and Vice Provost for Continuing Studies at USC where she developed curricula and alumni services and served as Vice President/Executive Director of the General Alumni Association.

Sherry and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village

In 2012 Sherry became the Chair of the American Association of University Women, Palos Verdes Branch. With a few devoted participants, a group called Who Are We Anyway (WAWA) was formed with Sherry as the leader, and the concept of the Village was created. Many long hours and lots of work went into the idea of a community, a coming together of like social values and responsibilities, a feeling of fellowship, of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. They became part of the Village movement, linking neighbors together to help one another remain in the homes they loved as they grew older and ensuring a vibrant, active social and emotional network along the way. For our wonderful Village, we have Sherry May, Chair of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Village, with her grand vision and dedicated hard work and ingenuity to thank.

Sherry and Project Renewment

Sherry was a member of the original group of retired career women who came together to discuss their transition into the new world of retirement, their personal interests, concerns and even their legacy. The women of Project Renewment wanted to continue their personal growth during their retirement years and most importantly, to share their knowledge, to explore new horizons, and to get together regularly, not as a support group, but as a body of bright, intelligent women who had much to offer one another. The concept so embodies Sherry and her zest for life, for giving, for learning, for being.

