



## **LOMBARD, Carol Lee**

December 25, 1931 - March 12, 2018

Carol Lee Lombard passed away following complications from surgery, on Monday, March 12, 2018 at age 86. Carol was born in Detroit, Michigan on Christmas Day, 1931 to Christine and Nile Lombard, joining her older siblings; sister Joyce, and brother, Cameron.

Carol attended Kingswood School Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan before continuing her studies at Northwestern University, where she graduated with a degree in Music. She was a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

After graduating from college, Carol went to New York where among many musical activities, she was hired to tour with the National Company's production of "The King and I." When the show closed, she performed at The Papermill Playhouse, and eventually relocated to Los Angeles where she joined the well-known singing group, The Skylarks. The Skylarks appeared regularly on the Dinah Shore show and performed in a number of different venues, in addition to releasing their own albums. Carol was inducted into The Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 2001, as a member of The Skylarks.

Over the years, Carol worked professionally as a singer and vocal contractor in sound recordings, television and movies with many legendary singers and groups, including Sam Cooke, The Beatles, Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin, Judy Garland, Michael Jackson and many more. She also worked on many TV variety shows during the sixties and seventies, such as Carol Burnett, Sonny and Cher, The Danny Kaye Show and Mama's Family. She was a vital member of the singer community and took an active role in her professional unions, the Screen Actors Guild and AFTRA, for many years.

After starting a family with her husband Haik Afarian, Carol added to her musical activities by embarking on a new phase of her career. She established the Sherman Oaks Community Children's Chorus, and "The Carol Lombard Kids" – a professional children's chorus that was actively working in commercials, television and film scoring for the next 35 years. Carol had a tremendous passion for teaching music and vocals to the children in her group and took immense pleasure and pride from their accomplishments over the years.

Carol was preceded in death by her sister Joyce Leonhard and is survived by her brother Cameron Lombard; her husband Haik Afarian, son, Christopher Afarian and daughter-in-law Catherine Afarian, as well as two grandsons, Hudson and Lincoln Afarian.

Carol knew exactly what she wanted to do in life and did it. She always spoke her mind and will be remembered as the true matriarch of the family, a loving mother, a fierce and devoted friend who was always generous with her passion for music and life. She inspired and touched the lives of all those who knew her.

Memorial services for Carol will be held on Saturday, May 26th at 1:00 pm at St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church located at 3646 Coldwater Canyon Avenue, Studio City, CA 91604. A reception will follow the service.

Donations in Carol's memory can be made to The Midnight Mission Los Angeles or to The American Heart Association.

**The Los Angeles Times**

Los Angeles, CA  
Sunday, May 20, 2018

Page B9, Column 6