



Nancy Nell Pfenninger

January 19, 1933 - February 22, 2017

Sacramento, California

In Sacramento, on February 22, 2017, Nancy Nell Pfenninger died at 84. Born on January 19, 1933 and raised among Hungarian-American manners that never needed a speech. She grew up believing that showing up was the first craft.

She folded mornings into stacks that left before travelers woke fully. A flatwork folder chalk stub taught that small mercies matter. Colleagues still mention a flatwork folder chalk stub.

She and John married in 1960 and raised a daughter and two sons without needing an audience. After John's death in 2010, she held to quiet habits-coffee before dawn, a tended yard, a voice on the phone that still checked in.

Neighbors remember a rake leaned against a shared fence after a storm. Mornings were her favorite shift at home. She died in Sacramento, on streets that already knew her pace. The extra coffee is still in the thermos.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. Her life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

A quiet remembrance in Sacramento. Those who wish may give to a neighborhood library, food pantry, or workers' aid fund instead of flowers.

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