



Carol Cohen Deutsch

October 14, 1957 - December 21, 2022

On Wednesday, December 21, 2022, Carol Sue (Cohen) Deutsch unexpectedly passed away from a sudden illness. She was born on October 14, 1947, in Atlanta, Georgia, the middle daughter of Helen and Gerald Cohen. Carol and her husband Bob Deutsch were married for 53 years. They met in their first year at the University of Michigan in 1965, got married on June 1, 1969, and lived their entire adult lives together. With Bob by her side, Carol built a family, a career, and a legacy of community involvement. Their path led them from Ann Arbor to Boston, to Western North Carolina, and finally to Asheville which became their home for 40 years.

Carol spent her childhood in Atlanta, active in school and Jewish youth groups. After graduating as valedictorian from Northside High School, Carol attended the University of Michigan where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree. In 1970, she was awarded her Master of Education from Boston University, after which she taught eighth-grade English in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, creatively using the lyrics of the rock opera Tommy and Bob Dylan songs as source material.

She moved to Hendersonville, North Carolina, and became director of research for Mother Earth News, responding to inquiries about sustainable living. She then built a distinguished career as an educator at Blue Ridge Technical Institute, and after moving to Asheville in 1985, Asheville Buncombe

Technical Institute. At both community colleges, Carol was known for her innovative courses. She was the first educator in the area to create a course in Women's Studies, as reported in a large front-page article in the Hendersonville Times News. She designed and implemented the "Wider Opportunities for Women" curriculum at AB Tech, arranging for her class to participate in blasting the rock to create Asheville's Beaucatcher Gap for Interstate 240. Carol also led a joint effort by Blue Ridge Tech and AB Tech to offer educational courses for worker promotion, traveling to various industrial sites, including Dupont and Dayco, to teach workers skills in effective written and oral communication. Years after the courses concluded, Carol and Bob would meet former students for whom she was a cherished teacher and mentor.

Carol's career as an educator culminated in her trademarked professional identity as "The Customer Service Detective". She taught many local companies, government entities, and nonprofit organizations the newly-appreciated principles of providing good customer service. She no doubt elevated the customer service experience at local banks, hospitals, the City of Asheville, Buncombe County, Johnson & Johnson, and Biltmore Estate among others. Participants in her seminars often called her to relate how they had applied her lessons in real life.

Carol loved being a part of the Asheville community. She became a respected leader in business and nonprofit organizations, including the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, the Community Foundation of WNC, the Children's Welfare League, and Women Mean Business.

For over 40 years, Carol was a beloved leader in the Asheville Jewish community, as a Sunday School principal, synagogue and JCC board member, and philanthropist. She was especially proud of creating the Woven Youth Group to replicate her high school regional leadership in BBYO for

Asheville teenagers. She was known for her strong organizational skills, reliability and persistence, and great personal charm all of which continue to resonate in the Asheville Jewish community.

Of all her accomplishments, Carol was most proud of her family. Watching her daughter Robin and son Andy grow into accomplished adults with strong families of their own gave her the most pleasure. She loved being a mother-in-law to Robin's husband Dave Edwards and Andy's wife Lauren Estrin. Her enjoyment rose to a new level as her five grandchildren, Natalie, Molly, Benjamin, Reid, and Jacob (in birth order) joined the family. "Grandma Carol" is and will be a fixture in their lives.

Carol came from a large, tight-knit extended family. She was very close with her family: sister Judy and brother Mark, and their spouses Marty and Tova as well as brothers-in-law, Dennis and Morris and their spouses Linda and Nancy. Carol also loved her nieces and nephews Michael, Laurie, Ross, Sara, Barak, Niffy, Neal, Yael, Emily, Adam & Samantha, and her great nieces and nephews Eve, Leah May, Marion, Gerald, Morris, Freida, Maayan, Yahav, Emmanuelle, Asher, and Gali. She had many aunts and uncles, and a plethora of cousins with whom she has remained close throughout the years.

Carol will be sorely missed by her family, and by her many friends and colleagues. May her memory be a blessing. In lieu of flowers, please consider sending a donation to:

Asheville JCC – Hilde's House Fund

Cemetery Details

Lou Pollock Cemetery

North Louisiana Avenue
Asheville, NC 28806

Previous Events

Funeral Service

DEC **23**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Beth Israel Synagogue
229 Murdock Ave
Asheville, NC 28804
<http://www.bethisraelnc.org>

Tribute Wall

DO

“ I lived in Asheville for four years and was blessed to know this amazing woman. I had the honor to be her hairdresser in downtown Asheville. When I left Asheville she was so kind and made me feel very glad to have been able to know her. God bless her family. love Debra

DEBRA ODONNELL - April 04, 2025 at 09:25 PM



“ Carol Cohen Deutsch

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM

LP

“ I moved to Asheville in 1985 and worked as a carpenter's helper for Jim Mclure. I remember speaking with her briefly (we remodeling her home) and having a sense of her kindness. poise, respect. Ultimately, her husband Bob became my lawyer. I don't believe I ever spoke with her again.

Lauralee Petritz - January 12, 2023 at 09:07 PM

MH

“ Carol was a remarkable woman! I so admired her. May her memory be a blessing to you, her family, and to all whom she touched. Our love to you at this sad time. Marylyn and Olson Huff

Marylyn Huff - January 04, 2023 at 11:12 AM

LB

“ Bob I was so sorry to see the news of Carol's passing. My deepest condolences! Asheville has lost a generous spirit!

Leah Broker - January 03, 2023 at 02:28 PM

MM

“ Carol was one of the crucial people in Asheville and I mourn her loss. Her energy, public spirit, and generous nature will be missed.

Merritt Moseley - January 01, 2023 at 07:20 PM

HF

“ Dearest Bob and family, we were so surprised and saddened to read of Carol's sudden and unexpected passing. We send our sincere condolences. Carol was a brilliant light in the Asheville community and she will be greatly missed. She worked tirelessly for what she believed in. With our sympathies, Hedy & Randy

Hedy Fischer - January 01, 2023 at 01:44 PM

CD

“ My heart hurts for your loss. Carol was an amazing mom and loves you so, Robin & Andy ~ forever and always. I was so grateful to get to share time & space with your wonderful family throughout junior high and high school. Sending the entire Deutsch family all our love. With condolences, Caty Davis

Cathryn Davis - December 28, 2022 at 11:02 PM

HG

“ Truly a light has gone out in our Kehila. Our deepest condolences, and abiding love and admiration to Carol's family. May her memory be a blessing to you, and to all of us. Much love, Heather and Jeremy Goldstein

Heather Goldstein - December 27, 2022 at 03:29 PM

JM

“ Robin and family, while I didn't know your mom, I know her kids and that says so much about her life. Reading these words, I'm overwhelmed by all the creative ways she nurtured her family and her community. What a blessing you all were to her and she to you. Sending warm hugs to all. Jodi Mansbach and family

Jodi Lox Mansbach - December 27, 2022 at 09:17 AM

EB

“ Our deepest sympathy on the loss of Carol Cohen Deutsch. It was our privilege to know her and we hope that memories of time together will become consoling. She was an outstanding woman in every way. Sent with friendship and admiration from Elaine & Jerry Blumenthal

ELAINE AND JERRY BLUMENTHAL - December 26, 2022 at 05:57 PM

LM

“ My condolences to you and your family. I remember and am appreciative how kind you and Carol were to my Mother and niece, Jennifer. I am so sorry over your great loss. Lois Michalove

Lois Michalove - December 25, 2022 at 07:25 PM

LH

“ My deepest sympathy to you Bob and your family. You had a beautiful life with her and may those wonderful memories help the loss you're dealing with now. G-d bless. With love Letty Halpern

Letty Halpern - December 23, 2022 at 11:47 AM

JK

“ Bob, Robin, Andy, Judy & Mark we were all shocked and sadden to hear about Carol's tragic and untimely passing. Selma, Martha & I remember the hospitality that you Bob and Carol showed us when we visited Asheville in 2016. Your Friday night Shabbat dinner was truly special, fun, educational and spiritual. Then we all went out to the see *The Man of La Mancha* the next evening which we all truly enjoyed. When we see a little bird we often think of the song from that musical. It was always great to see you all at the reunion's. We will miss Carol's presence at future reunion's but she will be there in spirit. Sending our thoughts and love to all of you during this most difficult time. Carol memory will always be for a blessing.

Selma, Jerry and Selma Kolodkin.

Jerry Kolodkin - December 22, 2022 at 09:00 PM

JS

“ Bob, I am so saddened to hear about Carol. Our friendship goes way back to Atlanta and our Brownie troop, our Girl Scout troop, JOJ-BBG, and all our High school adventures. We sang and laughed and studied together. Although we did not live in the same place for our adult lives, I was always happy to reconnect with Carol and catch up on our lives, and really enjoyed our visit with you and Carol in Asheville a few years ago. I am so sorry for your loss and will truly miss my old friend. With love, Janet Smith

Janet Smith - December 22, 2022 at 06:32 PM

RB

“ Bob, we are so shocked and saddened to read about Carol's unexpected death. Lynell and I have always enjoyed our times with you and have missed seeing you in recent years, as most of our time is spent in Florida.
Our prayers are with you during this time.
Robert Bell

Robert Bell - December 22, 2022 at 05:01 PM

PD

“ Every member of the Dror family, from the youngest to the oldest, adored Carol. Ronie said today that, "being so far from her "real grandparents," and with the passing of three of them, Bob and Carol were the closest thing I had to grandparents." And as Carol said, the last time we all got together at our house (before COVID), "Getting the gang together IS a big deal."

We are crying now, but have so many warm and wonderful memories to make us smile again. יהי זכרה ברוך

Perry Dror - December 22, 2022 at 03:39 PM

DW

Cathy and I are shocked and saddened by Carol's passing. Please accept our most sincere sympathies. May her memory be a blessing to Bob, the children and grandchildren and to all of us that knew her.

Dennis Winner - December 23, 2022 at 08:54 AM

LC

So Sorry to hear of the passing of Carol. Condolences to the family from the Caspers

Laurence Casper

laurence casper - December 27, 2022 at 03:18 PM

BS

Bob, I am so sad to hear of this great loss to you, your family, and to the Asheville community. My deep and sincere condolences to you.

Bill Slawter

Bill Slawter - January 05, 2023 at 05:51 PM