



Carol Lynn Simmer

July 3, 1948 - April 4, 2026

Carol Lynn Simmer, 77, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, registered dietitian, gardener, and beloved member of her community, passed away peacefully on April 4, 2026, at her home in Ferndale, Washington, surrounded by those who loved her.

She was the cherished wife of Ronald, daughter to her parents, Bonnie Lynn and Carl Pickering, a loving mother to Scott and Rachael, grandmother to Jacob, Sage, and Skyler, sister to Bruce, Ed, and Ford, and sister-in-law to Sue, Robert, Richard, Emily, Juleah and Evalind. She was also a devoted companion to her animals, including her shepherd, Tabby, and her cat, Tux, who brought her daily comfort and joy.

Born Carol Lynn Pickering on July 3, 1948, in Jamestown, Ohio, on a family farm called Honey Acres, named for her father's passion for beekeeping, Carol carried her strong work ethic and deep care for living things throughout her entire life. She graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio with a B.S Applied Science where she met Ron, the love of her life and husband of more than fifty-five years. Together, they built a life that took them from Ohio to Connecticut, North Carolina, British Columbia, and ultimately to northwest Washington, where they made their home for the past two decades among neighbors who became close friends.

As a registered dietitian, Carol devoted her career to improving the lives and health of others. She worked in hospitals and care homes before managing the Meals on Wheels program for the Whatcom County Council on Aging based at the Bellingham Senior Center. Her colleagues knew her as a mentor and advocate, always championing nutrition, wellness, and compassionate care.

In addition to her professional work, Carol devoted decades to advancing women's empowerment and workplace equity through her involvement in the American Association of University Women, including the Canadian and U.S. chapters. Most recently, she was a member of the Bellingham chapter, where she served in multiple roles, including president and membership coordinator. Her favorite moments were presenting scholarships each year to motivated young women.

Carol's ability to connect with people, her warmth, attentiveness, and genuine compassion were among her greatest gifts. She formed meaningful relationships with clients and colleagues alike, and many remember her not only for her work, but for the way she made them feel seen and cared for.

She had a deep love of gardening and found peace and joy in tending to growing things. Whether in her yard, through her work, or as a mother and grandmother, she had a quiet and profound way of nurturing life.

To those who knew her, she was simply one of the kindest people they had ever met. Her generosity of spirit, gentle presence, and unwavering care for others will be deeply missed and forever remembered. A celebration of life will be held near her birthday this July. For further details, contact rachael@simmer.org. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bellingham AAUW Scholarship Fund. <https://gofund.me/f78e865cb>

Tribute Wall

AN

“ I have been Carol's hair stylist for the past couple of years and have grown to know her well. I unfortunately just heard of her passing and am so sad to lose such an amazing soul. Carol was kind, joyful, and a bit of a fire cracker when she wanted to be! I'll miss her more than words can say. My condolences to her family and friends. She spoke often of her children and grandchildren, and her husband Ron. She brought light into my life every time I saw her and it just won't be the same with her gone. I'm so sorry
-Anna at northwest hair design

anna - April 23 at 11:46 PM

SR

“ I've treasured having Carol in my life ever since she started dating Ron back in college. From the very beginning, Carol treated me as a sister making every moment together special. She just had a magical and sweet way of doing everything!

She was an amazing cook and baker. Everything she fixed was delicious and often made with fresh items from her garden. Her desserts were always so yummy and healthy! My daughters and I always looked forward to her incredible meringues at Christmas. Carol taught me so much as I was growing up and gave incredible support and advice throughout my life. She never judged me but gave kind help.

Most recently, I got to spend time with her in Washington in 2021, in Switzerland in 2022 and in Ohio in 2023. We talked about going on a cruise together soon.

Whenever Carol was around, everything went smoothly and she brought a sense of calm. We talked almost every week and there will always be a huge hole in my heart. So many memories and fun times over the past 50 plus years. I've said all my life that she was an angel on Earth. Carol was so beautiful inside and out. I will miss her cute chuckle, gorgeous smile and love. She enhanced my life greatly and I will miss her every day. 💔

Sue Rogers - April 18 at 10:37 AM