

Jean Pinard
April 17, 1928 – September 24, 2023



Jean Skeels Pinard, a longtime member of AAUW and a lifetime resident of Morgan Hill, died in her home after suffering a stroke the previous week. She was 95 years old. A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 4:00 pm at the Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center.

Jean grew up in a house on Monterey Road and attended Live Oak High School (located where Britton School is now). She graduated from San Jose State College (now university) with a degree in education. After teaching in Dixon, CA for a few years, she returned to Morgan Hill where she taught at P.A. Walsh School. She went on to get an Administration Credential at SJSU and became the first curriculum coordinator in the MHUSD. She then served as a school principal at Burnett and Nordstrom schools.

Jean joined AAUW Morgan Hill in 1988. The following year, she participated in AAUW's quilt project, making a square for the quilt that was given to the MH Historical Society where it is on display in the museum. It represented an incident in the life of her father Lloyd Skeels, when he was chief of police.



After retirement, Jean became more involved with the branch, serving as Interest Group chair, VP of Educational Foundation (now AAUW Fund), and Tech Trek coordinator (1998-2001). She was co-president with Lorrie Scott, 2005-2006. In 2006, for an AAUW Women's History Month presentation, Jean gave a nod to Coe State Park where her family still owns property. Wearing jeans and a cowboy hat, she performed a monologue as Sada Coe.

Up to the time of her death, Jean was an active member of Evening Books, Friday Writers, and Gardening interest groups. She seldom missed AAUW programs and social events.



With friends, Jean regularly attended the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland and traveled extensively to Mexico, Australia, Japan, Guatemala, Holland, and France.



Strong and active, highly creative, artistic, intelligent, scholarly, and inquisitive, Jean never wasted a moment. Her days were filled with projects. She became a dedicated artist who completed wonderful pen-and-ink drawings and watercolor paintings. She was the self-published author of five books.



She is survived by her two children, Scott Patterson and Cary Pinard, grandchildren, twin great grandchildren, a sister, stepchildren, and other family members.

A good listener, a concerned friend, and a wise counselor, Jean will be greatly missed by her family, former students, and legions of friends.

-Elsa Walton

