



Rose "Judy" Scherer

July 10, 1938 - March 24, 2025

Rose Marie "Judy" Scherer, an extraordinary woman whose life was marked by adventure, intellect, and an unwavering commitment to others, passed away in Maitland, Florida on March 24th, 2025, after a long 12-year struggle with vascular dementia. She was 86 years old.

Judy leaves behind her loving husband, Roy Scherer; her daughters, Jessica Schlenk Guthrie (Vance) and Diana Schlenk Ades; and her cherished grandchildren, Tristan Ades and Josephine Ades. She is preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Winnie Stretton, and her first husband, John J. Schlenk, Jr.

Born in 1938 in Manchester, England, Judy grew up during the challenging war years, embraced by the love of her beloved grandmother "Ninny" and her cousin Tony Berkovitch, who was like a brother to her. Judy excelled academically, graduating with honors in Geography from Nottingham University. Her academic brilliance, coupled with her fluency in French and Spanish, led her to test for the English Foreign Service—a highly selective program where only the top candidates were chosen. Her success in this rigorous process was a testament to her sharp mind and determination, earning her a spot in London.

Her adventurous spirit quickly emerged when she opted to leave the Foreign

Service after two years, seeking something far more exciting than the offered position in Paris. She moved to Lima, Peru, where she taught at the San Sylvestre School, a bilingual institution. From there, her passion for global exploration took her to Barbados, where she met and married John J. Schlenk, Jr. Together, they moved to Orlando, Florida in 1965, where they had two daughters, Jessica and Diana. Judy's love and devotion to her family were central to everything she did, and she took immense pride in guiding her daughters through life.

Judy's career was as dynamic as her passions. She and John founded one of the first travel agencies in Central Florida, Caribbean Cruises, which catered to cruises and foreign travel. She was deeply involved in several organizations, including the Cosmopolitan Club, the English Speaking Union, Women in Travel, and Alliance Française. Judy's love of travel never ceased—she circled the globe for two years with her family, experiencing the cultures of distant lands, from New Zealand to India, and never stopped exploring. As a tour guide, she shared her vast knowledge with countless travelers, bringing the world's wonders closer to those around her.

In her later years, Judy married Roy Scherer, and together they created 35 years of treasured memories. Their shared love of travel, history, Toastmasters, and British TV shows brought them even closer. They even founded "The Hystorical Players," an acting troupe where Judy's talent shone brightly. With her signature red hair and unmistakable English accent, she brought history to life on stage, most notably as a convincing Queen Elizabeth I.

A natural teacher, Judy was driven by a profound curiosity and love for people. Whether as a professional educator or a volunteer teaching English to Spanish-speaking and Haitian adults and children, her passion for teaching was evident. She loved sharing her love of reading, music, art, poetry, and

travel with everyone she met, inspiring those around her to live with curiosity and joy. Her vast knowledge, rooted in years of avid reading, made her a wellspring of wisdom and a friend to all.

Judy's life was a testament to the joy of experiencing life to its fullest. She exemplified the importance of kindness, intellectual curiosity, and caring for others, leaving an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Friday, May 2nd at 3:00 PM at the University Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 11648 McCulloch Rd, Orlando. (Please consider wearing blue and/or lavender, her favourite colors.) An "Afternoon Tea" reception will follow. The service will also be livestreamed on YouTube for those unable to attend in person. (<https://www.youtube.com/@UUFMedia/streams>)

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Central Florida Community Arts (www.cfcarts.com/give), supporting the programming that Judy deeply loved and enjoyed.

Tribute Wall

J(

“ Jean O'shiel. (Stretton) Judy was my cousin we shared lots of Happy times. I went to Judy and Roy's many times in Orlando. We went on Cruise's together she looked after me showing me all the lovely places has we went around they were happy times. Our Dad's were brothers . Love to all the family. I will always remember Judy. My lovely cousin. Jean xx

jean o'shiel (Stretton) - May 03, 2025 at 11:23 AM

LJ

“ Judy was my Auntie Judy, my mum's great friend from university and someone I've known all my life. She visited us sometimes in Manchester when I was a child and I thought she was so fun and beautiful! She would tell us about her travels and adventures and she was always interested to hear about us too.

Nick and I visited the USA for the first time in 2000. Judy and Roy kindly let us stay with them in Orlando for weeks, and they took us out and were the best tour guides ever. We had so much fun. Judy was wonderful, showing us St Augustine and giving us tips about all the places we wanted to visit. We would all have dinner together in the evenings, and Nick and I still laugh about Roy's RV anecdotes to this day.

We visited again several times including after we moved to the US, and my parents also had some wonderful times with Judy and Roy in Orlando. Lots of laughter and such happy memories. Then Judy came to England one year and we all got lost on our way to Portsmouth. She always wanted to travel and see interesting places. I loved her take on life. She was inspiring.

We are richer for having known Judy, and we will always remember her and our times together with joy. With lots of love to all her family, Laura, Nick, Camilla & Claudia Coupe xxx

Laura Jones - May 01, 2025 at 10:31 PM

TJ

“ Judy was my room-mate at Nottingham University. We shared lots of happy times. I have fond memories of her at university but also at home with her family. We often joked that we’d been put together because we came from Manchester – the “frozen north!” – as all the other undergraduates came from the south of the UK. We were in contact throughout her life. Jeff and I visited Judy and Roy in Orlando and they were very happy holidays. I am still in touch with her family in Manchester, especially her fantastic cousin Tony, and we meet to share reminiscences about all our times together. Judy was much loved by all our family. She was godmother to my son, Stephen, and always sent him postcards from her travels. I send my love to all the family. I shall always remember Judy with love and happiness. I wish I could be with you on May 2nd, but instead I send you all my fondest love. From her great friend, Trish xxx

Trish Jones - May 01, 2025 at 09:24 PM

TB

“ Sending love and sympathy to all the family. I have a lifetime of fond, wonderful memories of my one-of-a-kind cousin Judy. Far too many to put into words. She was very much loved by all who met her, and especially by our family in Manchester. Much love from her cousin Tony x

Tony Berkovitch - May 01, 2025 at 02:58 PM

TG

“ 1 file added to the album *Jessica and Judy*



Toni C Gitles - April 14, 2025 at 11:49 AM

J(

Lovely photo from Jean O'shiel.

jean o'shiel (Stretton) - May 03, 2025 at 11:37 AM

WC

“ *With love, your friend Nancy Cox purchased the A Full Life for the family of Rose "Judy" Scherer.*



With love, your friend Nancy Cox - April 12, 2025 at 11:25 AM