

## **Linda Nisenson Collyer**

Linda Jane Collyer was born in Brooklyn, NY to Samuel and Rebecca Nisenson. Her father was an artist and illustrator, and her mother was a schoolteacher. She attended public schools in Long Beach, NY, and graduated from Mount Holyoke college, majoring in French. She then received a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from The Johns Hopkins University.

However, during her internship she soon decided that teaching irregular French verbs to bored teenagers wasn't going to be a rewarding career for her. So she capitalized on her passion for puzzles, and applied for a position at the National Security Agency. She quickly discovered that her love of enigmas was a good fit for her at NSA. But when her husband, Stan, got a job in Texas in 1970, she abandoned that career and moved to Houston, and later San Antonio. There she gave birth to their son, Mike.

When Stan's career took them to Orlando in 1973, she enrolled in the University of Central Florida and earned a second bachelor's degree, this time in business. After receiving her CPA certification she became a tax accountant for a small Florida firm. After one more move, this time to Bethesda MD in 1983, she spent the rest of her professional life as an accountant, and eventually partner, in the firm of Snyder, Cohn, Collyer, Hamilton & Associates, (now Snyder Cohn PC).

After retiring, Linda spent much of her time sharing her accounting skills as a volunteer for local non-profit organizations, as treasurer/bookkeeper, and/or board member. Among them were the C&O Canal Trust, Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice, Open Door Housing Fund (formerly Unitarian Universalist Affordable Housing Corporation), Potomac Riverkeeper, Rock Creek Conservancy, Hope & A Home, Life Skills Workshop, and several others.

Linda was an avid gardener, until her knees complained too much, and she filled her home with beautiful plants and flowers. She loved to travel, and especially enjoyed cruising with her husband. Together they visited about fifty countries and all seven continents. Among their more memorable adventures were trips to Alaska, where close encounters with brown bears were especially exciting.

Linda passed away on September 6, 2023, at the age of 79. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Stanley Collyer, her son Michael Collyer, daughter-in-law Suzanne Collyer, and grandchildren Rebecca Collyer and Brendan Collyer.