



Janet Stoll Lee

October 2, 1959 - September 12, 2025

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of the love of my life, my wife, Janet Stoll-Lee.

Janet passed into peace in the early morning hours of September 12, 2025, at the age of 65. Her passing followed a courageous battle with dementia that spanned more than six years.

Janet pursued every goal with fervent determination. Her unsinkable spirit, combined with her sharp intellect and talent as a communicator, catapulted her to prominence in the greater Fresno community.

Born in Detroit on October 2, 1959, Janet moved with her family to Fremont, California, in the early 1960s. Her parents were teachers in the Fremont Unified School District. Janet excelled in competitive swimming and forensics. In 1977, she graduated from high school at the top of her class at the age of 17.

The next fall, Janet enrolled at California State University, Fresno. She completed her degree program at an accelerated pace, graduating in 1980 with a bachelor of arts in radio and television news communication.

As a freshman at Fresno State, Janet landed her first broadcasting job as a

disc jockey for a Lemoore radio station. She went on to hold various commercial radio jobs in Hanford and Tulare.

In 1980 she joined Fresno's Fox 26 television station. For nearly two decades, Janet delivered the 10 O'Clock News to Fresno residents as a news anchor, managing editor, and reporter.

Janet had an unquenchable thirst for adventure. She fearlessly chased down news stories, even those that could put her in harm's way. She once said that she would eagerly travel on the first flight to Mars.

In 1998 she became the principal news anchor for News Radio KMPH (107.5 FM). She left the station in 2001 to serve the Clovis Police Department as its public information officer.

While at News Radio KMPH, Janet met her future husband, Jerry Lee, the station's traffic reporter. One day, on a whim, she asked Jerry if he'd like to play Skee Ball, a popular arcade game. He replied "yes," and off they went to the arcade. After that first date, they were inseparable.

It was rare to find Janet without a camera in her hand. As she and Jerry traveled to destinations around the world, she amassed thousands of photos, adding the title "photo journalist" to her list of accomplishments. Her photos routinely won top honors at the Big Fresno Fair.

In addition to her husband of 23 years (Jerry), Janet left behind her sister Marilyn Reed; niece Annalie Reed; nephew Jackson Reed; brother-in-law Gary Reed; and countless friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Martin and Arlene Stoll.

Janet's sister Marilyn, along with Jerry's extended family of children and

grandchildren, nurtured and loved her throughout her illness.

The Lee household included an ever-growing clan of “fur children,” many of them strays that Janet adopted. Janet had tremendous compassion for animals. She became their staunch advocate, raising awareness of local animal shelters and mobilizing donor support.

Sweet Janet, we love you and will cherish you in our hearts forever. Rest in eternal peace, darling girl.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Chapel of the Light on Friday, October 24, 2025. Interment will follow at Belmont Memorial Park.

Please click on the link below to stream Janet's Celebration live.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/9ZcFsO7IQOs?si=-t1jNI8YkPfohkcl>

Cemetery Details

Belmont Memorial Park

Fresno, CA
later date

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT **24**. 10:00 AM (PT)

Chapel of the Light
1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728
michael@chapelofthelight.com
<http://www.chapelofthelight.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Chapel Of The Light created a Tribute Video in memory of Janet Stoll Lee*



Chapel Of The Light Funeral Home and Mausoleum - October 24, 2025 at 06:20 PM



“ *Chapel Of The Light created a Tribute Video in memory of Janet Stoll Lee*



Chapel Of The Light Funeral Home and Mausoleum - October 24, 2025 at 10:51 AM

EB

“ Janet and I designed and shared in an individual study American Lit English class in 1975 with a young and energetic teacher, Barry Hottle. We wove in literature, poetry, music and important topics in America and society. In the background are school newspaper archives from the newsprint era. We didn't yet realize her career path!



Elias Blawie - April 04 at 02:32 AM

EB

“ When I first heard of Janet's recent passing I was in Napflio Greece--near the famous amphitheater in Epidurus. Janet and I shared a love of languages and culture in high school, and of travels and family connections and stories in later life. I went that same night and lit a candle at the local Greek Orthodox Church in Napflio--as I had for my Greek grandfather, grandmother and my own parents in his local village.



Elias Blawie - October 24, 2025 at 01:45 AM

EB

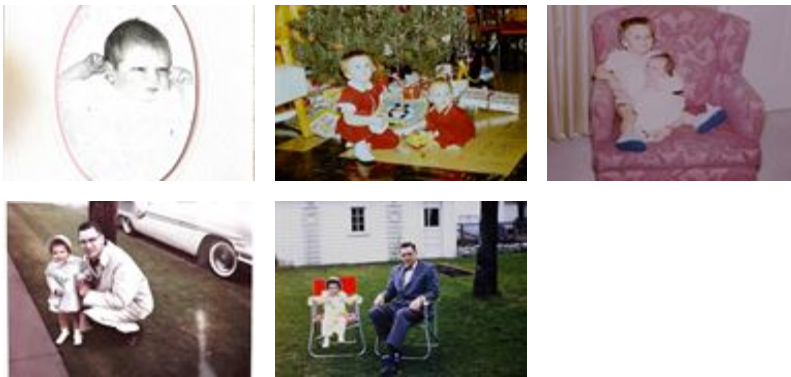
“ 13 files added to the album *School Years in the News*



Elias Blawie - October 23, 2025 at 09:22 PM



“ 150 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Chapel Of The Light Funeral Home and Mausoleum - October 23, 2025 at 05:45 PM

TD

“ Terry and Cyndy Dolph planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Janet Stoll Lee.

Terry and Cyndy Dolph - October 21, 2025 at 06:14 PM

TD

“ Terry and Cyndy Dolph purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Janet Stoll Lee.



Terry and Cyndy Dolph - October 21, 2025 at 06:14 PM

JR

“ Dear Janet was indeed a light in every life she touched, and that was many many! She brought integrity, competence, passion and remarkable compassion to every personal and professional encounter and experience. I am eternally grateful for her friendship, and for all that she brought to all of us. Rest in grace and peace, dear friend.

Jackie Ryle - October 17, 2025 at 08:35 PM

CC

“ So so sad. For years I watched her on the news. Met her once at the mall and she could not have been nicer. Gone way too soon. So happy she found true love.

Cory Colligan - September 24, 2025 at 02:11 PM

SH

“ The Nicest lady I have ever met. Me and my mom were eating lunch at a Chinese restaurant and we talked to her for a while ❤️
🌹 REST IN PARADISE



Sherrie - September 17, 2025 at 07:58 AM

RK

“ I am so sad to hear of Janet's passing. I worked with Janet at Clovis PD when she was our PIO. Janet was always so nice and cheerful and just a joy to be with. I enjoyed working community events with Janet and watching her take photos of people at the event, greeting them with a smile, and sharing time with them. What a treasure she was.

*Rod King
Reserve Police Officer*

Rod King - September 16, 2025 at 05:40 PM

CW

“ Janet was a vivacious member of the Centerstage Clovis Community Theatre board for many years. Always ready to lend her talents and media expertise to building live theater in Clovis she was loved and respected by all who knew her. My condolences to the family. Rest well, my friend.

Carol Wright - September 15, 2025 at 08:16 PM

AH

“ A wonderful woman gone too soon. Deepest sympathy to Janet's family on the loss of a truly good person.

Anna Herrera - September 14, 2025 at 03:23 PM

PN

“ I first met Janet when I gave her a ride in my F-106 at the Fresno Air National Guard in the early 1980's. She was a young TV reporter. She absolutely loved being in the airplane and had no fear - she was up for whatever I could show her. (Unlike a few other civilians that I took up over the years). I would see her almost every Christmas time when she would cover the food distribution event I would do with my Clovis Rotary Club in concert with the Clovis PD and Clovis Unified. I always teased her about that airplane ride. She was a wonderful, vibrant person and I'm devastated to hear of her passing.

Paul Nibur - September 13, 2025 at 02:39 PM

DR

Dona nobis pacem

Dixon Richard - September 16, 2025 at 11:54 PM



In the late 1970s, I worked with Janet at Y94 radio in Fresno. We used to speak German with each other, and occasionally would banter in Deutsch on the air. I was shocked to hear of her passing.

Leo Hawel - September 18, 2025 at 06:24 PM

CC

To Jerry, I am so sorry to hear of Janet's passing. She was a precious love and wife to you. God be with you and all the family. Carol Riley Calderon

Carol Riley Calderon - October 18, 2025 at 01:26 AM

AF

My deep sympathy and condolences to Jerry and the family. I worked at KMPH as a film editor back when Janet anchored the Ch 26 News. Just before most every live broadcast, Janet would dash through the lunch room, tiptoeing in her little high heels, and on into the studio (big smile, maybe a little giggle). With minutes to spare, she would be seated perfectly and deliver a cutting edge newscast. She got along with everyone and we all loved her. My few fond memories of working there include Janet. Godspeed, you lively, lovely lady. I'm thankful I got to know you.

Anita Fetnandez - October 24, 2025 at 03:30 AM

JD

“ *A wonderful friend*

jeff dippel - September 13, 2025 at 09:12 AM

JR

“ *As beautiful and bright a light as you were on air, you were even more so in person. I cherish the memories of our lunches and talks and sharing our worlds. You will always be a joy in my heart. Rest well in peace, dear friend*

Jackie Ryle - September 13, 2025 at 08:48 AM

DR

Pals

Dixon Richard - September 19, 2025 at 05:29 PM

JE

I knew Janet when we were students at CSU Fresno back in the 1970's. I was so pleased to see her successful professional trajectory into broadcast journalism. Janet was always a very skilled oral communicator and I am not at all surprised that she had such a successful career. In addition to her many talents, Janet was a gracious and supportive friend and although she was always one of the smartest people around she never sought to exploit the limelight. She was a tremendous encourager of others. I am deeply saddened by her passing and my thoughts and prayers are with her beloved spouse and others she left behind.

Joseph J. Saggio, Ed.D. - December 01, 2025 at 04:43 PM