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Senior Directory's

*Jean St. Clair*

*Remembering  
Jean*

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Jean St. Clair died on March 6, 2016. We, her family, knew how much she loved her job. And with her passing, we've come to learn how many lives she'd deeply touched.

As the Director of Marketing for the Senior Directory, Jean conducted informal interviews with celebrities who'd reached their "golden years". Her love for connecting with others set the environment for meaningful and honest discussions. Readers were drawn to this publication by the picture on its cover; they walked away carrying an invaluable source of information on topics such as community resources and life care options. They were also provided an opportunity to read real-life stories of these senior celebs, as written by Jean. She met the likes of Chubby Checker, Bobby Rydell, Ernest Borgnine, Tony Curtis, Valerie Harper and Davy Jones, to name a few. Whether she interviewed them in person or over the phone, they became her friends. She was the consummate connector in everything she did. Work was not work; it was her passion to touch lives.

It was not uncommon that soon after the printing of an edition was complete, Jean would begin to ponder who she'd feature on the next cover.

And so, in January of this year, she did just that. However, her initial contact had declined the invitation.

Not taking this rejection personally, and with her great gift of perseverance, she continued her search for another well-known personality. We now understand why the cover space was left unfilled at the time of her passing, and it is an honor to be asked to remember Jean in this 23rd edition of the directory.

Born on October 11th in a suburb of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Jean was the eldest of six children. As a young girl, she enjoyed simple times. Making friends came easily. This admirable character trait followed her into her teens, young adult years, and finally into her professional life. As one friend recently put it, "She was a wonderful person - always kind, upbeat, and happy. Everyone loved her, including me".

Jean would talk to anybody, value the chance to communicate with others, and effortlessly find something in common with



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each of them. She listened with compassion and spoke with wisdom. A co-worker described Jean in these words, “Her pride and dedication at home and at work was exemplary and something we always looked up to”.

It wasn’t far into a conversation with Jean that perfect strangers learned about her love for family. She’d express her pride, share photos and stories, filling them in on the latest achievements of her twelve nieces and nephews. When we met Jean’s friends after her death, many said they felt as though they had already met us. We had been introduced to them through Jean’s natural gift to gab.

Before Jean found her true calling, networking within the field of healthcare for seniors, Jean also served others in quite a

different capacity. Food.

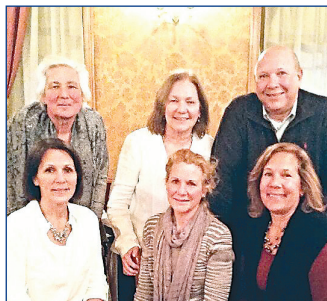
Known for her expertise in adding just the right amount of each ingredient without the need for a recipe, Jean was the chef in the family. Cooking as if she was serving a restaurant full of people, her family never went

hungry. She was a master at recreating a favorite dish. After experiencing a tasty entrée from the finest restaurant, she’d immediately try to duplicate it. She was delighted with her successes.

No recipe was too great a challenge for her when it came to food.

Jean’s nieces and nephews often came in handy as taste testers. When trying a new dish for “gator” or frog legs, she told the kids, “It’s chicken. You’ll love it!” So with the innocence of children, they tasted what Aunt Jean had made.

It was this talent and her love of both cooking and being with people that led her to open an Italian restaurant in Florida. Her success in this endeavor allowed her to eventually expand the business to include a second location. She found great joy in this entrepreneurship for many years.



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## Jean St. Clair (continued)

Ultimately, Jean's dedication to family won over and brought her back to the Philadelphia area. Leaving business ownership behind gave her more time to spend with family and friends, and a chance to devote attention to her many hobbies.

She collected antiques. When involved in ultimate bidding wars at an auction, Jean cleverly passed her auction number to one of her nieces or nephews. She knew no one would dare bid against a kid. As a result of that strategy, she accumulated a garage full of treasures. Having an appreciation for the old and the extraordinary was another one of her gifts.

Not all treasures could be found in the United States, according to Jean. And a tribute to her would not be complete without mentioning her annual travel adventures. She and her friends, traveling buddies if you will, explored the narrow streets of Prague, the tastes of Spain, and the quaint shops of England.


Her untimely diagnosis of cancer in January, 2014, one week before they were to leave for Paris, forced her to cancel

her trip in order to begin a chemotherapy regime. We, her siblings, decided her trip would be postponed, not canceled. One year later, "The St. Clair Six" traveled to Paris, a memory we will cherish forever.



Jean enjoyed the fine arts. Whether drawing as a pastime, attending a theater performance or enjoying dinner and

a movie with a friend, she lived life to the fullest. Her contagious laugh lifted everyone's spirits when she walked into a room. We admired her zest for life, generosity to others and determination to succeed.

We share in the loss of our sister Jean, with you, readers and advertisers of The Senior Directory. 

*The St. Clair Family*

"Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes. For those who love with their heart and soul, there is no such thing as separation." - Rumi