



## Della Frances Carillo

April 27, 1941 - July 20, 2025

Della Frances Carillo

April 27, 1941 – July 20, 2025

Della was born in Bakersfield, California to Benjamin Sr. and Verna Carillo on April 27, 1941. She grew up and attended elementary, junior high school and high school in East Bakersfield, graduating from East Bakersfield High School, Class of 1959. Della went on to attend Bakersfield Community College. From there she began a long career performing accounting and administrative work in the Bakersfield oil industry. She was an active member of the Desk and Derrick Club and once served as their president.

In the early 80's, Della decided to make a career change which included relocating to Cayucos, California. There she started a business and became the proud owner of Della's Sportswear Store in downtown Cayucos. Not one to sit still, she had other administrative careers which included working at Mid-State Bank and later the Abalone Farm in Cayucos.

In 1984, Della became a Lioness and served the Cayucos community for many years. She once was named Honorary Mayor of Cayucos and was also a Grand Marshall for the Cayucos 4th of July Parade. Della's warmth and generosity left an impression wherever she went.

Della never really retired and instead she found a "career" that brought her great joy. For many Christmases, Della portrayed Mrs. Claus for the Cayucos

Chamber of Commerce's annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony and Santa's House where she added her own unmatched charm to the holidays and brought smiles to untold number of children. She brought that same beautiful spirit portraying the Easter Bunny during the annual Easter Egg Hunt each year.

Our sweet sister Della was predeceased by her parents, Ben and Verna, her sister Shirley, and husbands Leland Harlan and Paul Tillett. She is survived by her sister Pat Metcalf (Perry), her brother Ben Jr. (Jill), and sister Connie Lindley (Jim), plus all her favorite nieces and nephews as well as extended family and friends.

Donations in Della's memory can be made to any of the following that were her favorite:

Cayucos Chamber of Commerce (Santa House sponsor)  
P.O. Box 106  
Cayucos, CA 93430

Cayucos Seniors Club  
P.O. Box 134  
Cayucos, CA 93430

Cayucos Lioness Club  
P.O. Box 153  
Cayucos, CA 93430

# Cemetery Details

## Cayucos Morro Bay Cemetery District

2451 Ocean Blvd  
Cayucos, CA 93430

# Previous Events

## Graveside

AUG 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (PT)

Cayucos Morro Bay Cemetery District  
2451 Ocean Blvd  
Cayucos, CA 93430

# Tribute Wall

RB

“ *Della and Ben (her dad) were life long friends. The Carrillo family bought many cars from Bookout Motors in Bakersfield and Bookout Datsun/Nissan in Visalia. Della and I attended East High at the same time. We enjoyed visiting Della and Ben in Cayucos. Della always had a kind word for each person she encountered. Della will be missed but not forgotten as her fingerprints are all over Cayucos. See you sweet angel in heaven- Ralph Bookout*



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**Ralph Bookout** - September 13, 2025 at 07:41 PM

MH

“ *I will always remember Della as one of the nicest, friendliest, most helpful people I've ever met!! I met Della in the 7th grade, and we remained friends throughout high school. The world was a better place with her in it!*

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**Marilyn Hester-Bishop** - August 21, 2025 at 04:12 PM

BL

“ *My beautiful friend. I remember how excited you were when I gave you my sunflower plates that matched yours! Such a good friend and beautiful person inside and out. I will miss you! Bonnie*

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**Bonnie Little** - August 20, 2025 at 04:51 PM

CO

“ *Della in Easter parade in Cayucos with grandson, Cole Nelson*



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**Connie** - August 17, 2025 at 08:08 PM

KC

“ *Kathryn Lombardo & Richard Cordoni purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Della Frances Carillo.*



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**Kathryn Lombardo & Richard Cordoni** - August 16, 2025 at 01:42 PM

KC

“ *Kathryn Lombardo & Richard Cordoni planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Della Frances Carillo.*

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**Kathryn Lombardo & Richard Cordoni** - August 16, 2025 at 01:42 PM

RE

“ *Richard E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Della Frances Carillo.*

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**Richard E.** - August 16, 2025 at 01:35 PM

PM

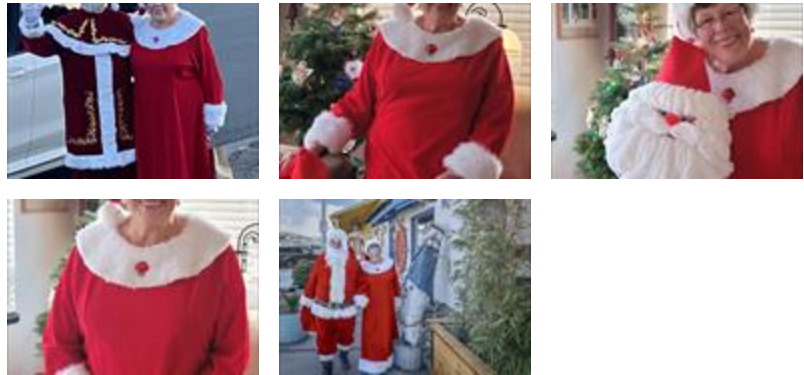
“ Sweet beautiful memories of your lovely heart and adorable smile  
😊🌹



Patricia Metcalf - August 16, 2025 at 10:25 AM

CL

“ 9 files added to the album Della Remembered



Connie Lindley - August 10, 2025 at 07:44 PM

Profile icon

“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Della Frances Carillo.



August 09, 2025 at 01:29 PM

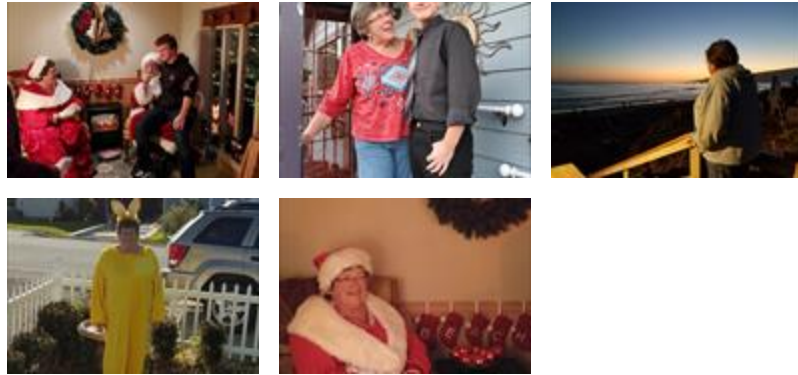


“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Della Frances Carillo.

August 09, 2025 at 01:29 PM



“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Deann - August 07, 2025 at 10:13 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Della Remembered



Connie Lindley - August 07, 2025 at 07:58 PM



*Rest in peace our dear sister Della. We will always remember your Beautiful smile and kind heart to everyone you meet. You made your mark no doubt on all of us and the town of Cayucos. You will live on with all who knew you . We love you Benny and Jill*

jill - August 07, 2025 at 09:45 PM

CL

“ *To our beautiful, sweet sister, you were always there for us, and we so appreciated your selfless acts. You'll be sorely missed but forever loved and in our hearts. Until we meet again, rest easy.*

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**Connie Lindley** - August 07, 2025 at 05:38 PM