

Veronica “Ronnie” Clasmeyer was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri and attended Rosati-Kain High School, a Catholic girl’s school. After taking a few college courses she had to leave school to get a job to help the family finances. She was hired by the Archdiocese of St. Louis—the largest Catholic cemetery west of the Mississippi—where her job was to organize the monumental piles of neglected burial records . . . that dated back to 1849! She says, “It was such an interesting experience” . . . yeah, I’ll bet it was!

In 1949 she met and married her husband Conrad, and then had four children: three boys and a girl. After the birth of their first son in 1951, they moved from Missouri to California, where they lived until 2003, when they moved to San Antonio.

Ronnie began her volunteering work in her high school years, where she gave her time and talents to an orphanage. After various volunteer efforts at soup kitchens, she was most fulfilled by her time given to the Valley Guild of Salinas, California (where they lived for 43 years). After the Guild purchased the house that writer John Steinbeck was born and raised in, she and the other volunteer ladies created a luncheon restaurant and gift shop in the aptly named “John Steinbeck House.” She met many types of people that came there, and has lots of stories about experiencing “the real side” of many celebrities—how kind and giving they all were. All the profits from the Steinbeck House were given to various worthy non-profit organizations.

After fifty-nine years of a fulfilling marriage that included raising a family, building many homes, piloting their own aircraft, volunteering for various charities and soup kitchens, and traveling the world by air, land, and sea (41 cruises!), her husband, friend, soul-mate—Conrad—passed away peacefully in 2008.

After Conrad’s death many longtime friends of Ronnie beckoned her, that it was time to “come back home . . . to California.” They were surprised to hear her answer, “I *am* home . . .” Ronnie had found a new, extended family, a wonderful group of like-minded ladies that keeps growing, enriching her life and others with their kindness and giving . . . Ronnie found Threads of Love. I know, for sure, that she has found “home” in San Antonio because I am one of a few, lucky individuals in this world that call her “Mother.”

Carl Clasmeyer