



## Carol Ann Cockrell Gulley

January 25, 1945 - October 4, 2019

Music was her gift to the world.

Carol Ann Cockrell Gulley passed away peacefully on Friday, October 4, 2019, surrounded by family and friends.

Musician, composer, performer, teacher, Carol's music infused her love of everything and everyone; and it merged seamlessly with her passion for language, literature, dance, visual arts, and theatre. Every moment with her was one of melody, of sensitivity, of compassion.

And she shared it all, inspiring family, friends, and the thousands of students she taught throughout her life.

Born on January 25, 1945, Carol was a versatile and natural musician from early childhood, playing piano, accordion, and guitar. She embraced and loved all music: classical, pop, musical theatre, jazz, blues, country – and she was always learning more. Her need and enthusiasm for learning overflowed into many other areas of interest, as well: politics, physics, philosophy, history, travel. She was a gifted theatre director and writer, too: playwright and poet, she studied with Paul Baker at Trinity University and with Pulitzer Prize winning poet Henry Taylor at American University in Washington, D.C. In everything Carol did, her sharp wit, gentle nature and sense of fair play prevailed.

Carol was also a wife, to Robert, and a mother, to Annalee. While music was her gift to the world, her unconditional love was her gift to her family. First meeting in seventh grade, Carol and Robert spent 61 years devoted to one another; and would have celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary on December 2, 2019. Together, they had Annalee, who was perhaps the true love of her life.

She was a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio, and of Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas.

Carol is survived by her husband, Robert Lee Gulley of San Antonio; daughter Annalee Gulley of Houston, and sister Cathy Cockrell Newton and husband John of Boerne, Texas. She was predeceased by her parents Sid and Lila Cockrell.

Music was Carol's gift to the world. She remains a steadfast gift to us all.

Services will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary of Laurel Heights Methodist Church. A public graveside service will follow immediately at Mission Burial Park North.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked for donations to Winston School San Antonio.

"We are the music makers and the dreamers of dreams." (Arthur O'Shaughnessy)

# Cemetery Details

## Mission Burial Park North

20900 IH 10 West  
San Antonio, TX 78257

# Previous Events

## Church Service

OCT 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Laurel Heights United Methodist Church  
227 W. Woodlawn Ave.  
San Antonio, TX 78212

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ We are saddened by Mrs. Gulley's passing. A loving and caring teacher who loved music and loved children. We will miss you dearly. Thank you for loving our children. The Rosen Family (Larry, Maria, William and David).

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**Maria S Rosen** - October 13, 2019 at 11:10 PM

PA

“ Mrs. Gulley is such a loving, compassionate & gifted person. She will always remain in our family's hearts as she was so good to our son while he was attending The Winston School. She helped my son who was shy & beat down from being bullied at a different school feel loved, important, talented & intelligent. She helped him to grow. We will always be grateful. My son said she is the kindest & most caring teacher he ever had. She will be sincerely missed! Sending our thoughts & prayers to her family.

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**Pat** - October 09, 2019 at 08:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Carol Ann Cockrell Gulley.



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October 08, 2019 at 03:54 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carol Ann Cockrell Gulley.*



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October 08, 2019 at 03:06 PM



“ *The incredible impact Carol had on not just myself, but many others is huge. I remember being in the Freedom Folksingers with her (even though I couldn't sing well). She had a sense of grace and charm. She was kind, compassionate, and had a wicked sense of humor. She helped guide us while letting us find our own path. Doing drama in her classes was great fun. Carol was, and still is, an educator...lessons she taught stayed with me. And she was a friend. Rest now, good and faithful servant. Your job is done. You did well.*

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**Ray Meckel** - October 08, 2019 at 09:47 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Carol Ann Cockrell Gulley.*



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October 08, 2019 at 08:41 AM

AM

“ My heart feels sad at such a great loss. She was an awesome speech & drama teacher. She taught me so much that has helped me through out my life with speaking events. Acadian folksingers and Freedom Folk singers were wonderful experiences as well under Miss Peacock and Carol’s supervisions. She really was a special teacher. Well done, you impacted so many lives. Rest In Peace with a big smile. Sending prayers to her family to bring comfort during this difficult time.

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**Alice Gonzales Moore** - October 08, 2019 at 01:01 AM

PC

“ Carol was my drama teacher in 1977 at the San Antonio Fine Arts Center. I was a shy girl of thirteen with braces and Carol helped draw me out of my shell. She took me to see the first Star Wars movie!!



*Her musical talent inspired many and how she played the accordion!*

*Beautiful lady on the inside and out!!*

*My deepest condolences to her family especially after losing Mrs Cockrell only a few weeks ago*

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**Pamela Catudal** - October 07, 2019 at 10:11 PM

RG

“ My deepest condolences to Carol’s family. I performed with her in 1976 with the Freedom Folksingers, whom she was one of the adult leaders, for the Bi-Centennial, and she was a teacher at Longfellow Jr High when I attended there in the early ‘70s. She was such a beautiful person inside and out, very talented and easy to get along with. Carol, May you rest in piece and be playing beautiful music with the angels in heaven.

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**Ron Garcia** - October 07, 2019 at 09:55 PM

RA

“ My deepest condolences to Ms Cockrell's family. Although I was surely a thorn in her side, I greatly admired this kind, generous and brilliant woman. She will be missed.

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**Raul Arispe** - October 07, 2019 at 09:24 PM

CS

“ I was very saddened to hear of Carol's passing. While I was a senior at Jefferson High School in 1975, I was very blessed to have joined the Freedom Folksingers where Carol sang and played the accordion. I have fond memories of travelling and performing at various places. I always marveled at Carol's exceptional musical ability and remember thinking, "Boy, she sure makes playing the accordion look so easy." She was a gentle, kind soul and a beautiful person inside and out.

To her family: Please accept my deepest condolences and know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.



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**Cynthia Sanchez** - October 07, 2019 at 07:58 PM

MB

“ I found some play pictures with her in them.

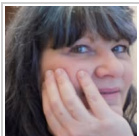


Maddie Briggs - October 07, 2019 at 05:30 PM

MB

“ Mrs Gulley inspired me to put myself out there and join a play. She always supported me in what ever I did. I was writing a story for her where each of the characters names had a meaning because she loved finding the meaning in things. During one of the summers she invited me to help her come up with songs for glee club and it felt so special that she wanted my help. My mom’s mother wasn’t around a lot so she was pretty much that grandma we had been lacking. She was the most amazing person I had ever know and she could brighten anyone’s day and see the good in everyone.

Maddie Briggs - October 07, 2019 at 05:23 PM



“ What a beautiful person -- Carol was an integral part of Longfellow Jr. High, corralling students in drama classes, working with the Acadian Folk Singers. I loved watching her play the accordion with gusto. Teachers like Carol taught future teachers how to ply both content and love (sometimes tough love) in everything.



Jane Focht-Hansen - October 07, 2019 at 04:08 PM

SL

“ *Samuel Loggie lit a candle in memory of  
Carol Ann Cockrell Gulley*



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**Samuel Loggie** - October 07, 2019 at 09:14 AM