



Irene Josephine Godfrey

October 14, 1940 - July 18, 2025

Irene Josephine Godfrey, a native of Santa Cruz, CA, passed away peacefully on July 18, 2025

with family by her side. She was 84 years old.

Irene was born on October 14, 1940, in Santa Cruz, CA, to Percy Arthur and Minnie Pauline

Carney. She attended Santa Cruz High School and spent many years as a bank teller at Bank of

America. A faithful Jehovah's Witness for 54 years, Irene dedicated her life to sharing the good news of the Kingdom.

A hardworking and devoted mother and grandmother, Irene's character was one of grace and

subtle elegance. She often worked two or more jobs to provide for her daughters, Michelle and

Pauline, putting her own aspirations on hold to ensure they had a loving and supportive home.

She created lasting memories by taking them to the Santa Cruz Boardwalk, KOA campgrounds,

and the county fair. With her talent for sewing, she made them special dolls and blankets, and

she lovingly ensured they were always well-groomed.

The songs of America, Billy Joel, and the Eagles were the soundtrack of their

lives, a gift of music she shared that now serves as a cherished reminder of their time together. She also took pictures of everyone and everything with her Kodak camera, ensuring every precious moment was captured.

Irene's devotion extended to her grandchildren, Brittany, Ian, Brooke, Jake, Drew, Chloe, Logan, Josh, Kelsey, and Cassandra. She invested her time and energy into them, helping with homework, teaching Bible principles, and sharing life lessons like the importance of saving money. She created traditions with them, from reading at the kitchen table to making sure their trips to Dairy Queen for ice cream always ended with a drive to the beach. Irene also loved gardening and thrift store shopping, and she made sure pickles and cheese were always on the menu at Grandma's.

Irene was preceded in death by her brother, Richard Carney. She is survived by her sister, Phyllis Young; her loving daughters, Michelle and her husband Bruce Heyer, and Pauline and her husband Chris Monaco; as well as her ten beloved grandchildren. A service of remembrance is being planned by her family for a later date.