



## Jeanne Marie Gurnee

June 17, 2018

GURNEE, Jeanne Marie (nee Bustanoby)

On Sunday, June 17, 2018, Jeanne Marie Gurnee passed away at the age of 91 at her home in Tennessee.

Born in 1926 in Englewood, NJ, Jeanne was a graduate of Tenafly High School in Tenafly, NJ and the Katharine Gibbs School in New York, NY. In 1951 Jeanne married Russell Gurnee and settled in Closter, NJ. During this time Jeanne worked for an art studio in Rockefeller Plaza and was an active member of her community, serving on the Board of Zoning Adjustment and as the Environmental Commissioner for the Borough of Closter.

Jeanne was a long-time member of the Society of Woman Geographers; she was one of the first female members, and first female president, of the National Speleological Society; and as a member of The Explorers Club she served on the Board of Directors of the Club and was the editor and publisher of The Explorers Club Magazine, The Explorers Journal.

Jeanne and Russ had a life-long interest in Speleology, the scientific study and exploration of caves. Together they explored and developed many caves, including Kartchner Caverns in Arizona, Harrison's Cave in Barbados, Fountain Cave in the British West Indies, and most notably, the Rio Camuy Cave system in Puerto Rico. She was an author of numerous articles and co-author with her husband of *Discovery at the Rio Camuy* and *Gurnee Guide to American Caves*.

Jeanne is preceded in death by her husband Russell Gurnee and will be

lovingly remembered by her daughters Susan Gurnee and Wendy (Mike) Gustafson, grandchildren Luke (Mackenzie) Gustafson and Hillary (Roy) Adcock and great-grandchildren Miller Gustafson and Michael and Ethan Adcock.

A celebration of her life-long involvement with the National Speleological Society will be held at the N.S.S. Convention on August 2, 2018 in Helena Montana at 4:00 PM. Details on a family memorial service to be held in Tennessee this fall will be forthcoming.

# Tribute Wall

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“ On behalf of the members of the National Caves Association (NCA) we send our deepest condolences to Wendy and Susan and family on the passing of their mother and grandmother and our dear friend Jeanne. Collectively we have many fond memories of working together for the betterment of the show cave industry and a friendship that will carry on for many many years. This is why she was made NCA Honorary Member in 2015. Jeanne will be missed by all and will be remembered in our Cave Talk newsletter and at our convention in the fall.

*Bob Holt  
Executive Director  
National Caves Association*



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**Bob Holt** - July 18, 2018 at 11:34 AM