

# MEMORIES



Photos courtesy of: Nic Coury, Dale Byrne, Christine Rue, Tim Twomey and Jon Wolfe

Please visit [www.carmelresidents.org](http://www.carmelresidents.org) for the link to Barbara's 2016 Centennial video interview, and more.

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# BARBARA LIVINGSTON

## A REMEMBRANCE AND A SALUTE



**She was a best friend. A best friend to the CRA, a best friend to countless people, and a best friend to Carmel-by-the-Sea.**

Her dedication and her enthusiasm and her attention to sustaining the character of this little Village were unique, unprecedented, and worthy of the title of “The Conscience of Carmel.”

No one, no citizen, no elected official has ever been more responsible, more passionate, a passion she gave forth daily, for the forest, the beach, the town’s center; for the library, the theaters, the music, the art, the fire department, the residential planting, the strict building codes, the small businesses, and the architectural guidelines appropriate for what she called “a village in a forest by the sea.”

Barbara Livingston died at the age of 92 on February 23 of this year. *The Voice* has received many comments by email, phone calls and personal meetings. We would like to share some of those thoughts with our readers.

“We owe it to Barbara to carry on voicing our concerns when our longstanding traditions are in danger of erosion.”

“Carmel has lost an icon . . . don’t think you will ever find another person who is as passionate about Carmel as Barbara.”

“I hope that before they take action, future City Council and Planning Commission members will ask themselves: ‘What would Barbara do?’”

“Barbara, so appreciative, so demanding of herself as well as others, so decisive, so respectful, so committed, ever kind.”

“She lights up every room she’s in. And she loves Carmel, our heritage, our people, our assets, our charm, and our community. She expects the best from everyone—the best, just as she delivered to us all.”

“She was not shy. There were some who may have disagreed with her on matters of Carmel. She actually welcomed a caveat always with a clarification of her position on an issue. And always with respect and kindness.”

“Barbara became the longest serving president of the CRA and was recognized as the face of this organization. Her relentless spirit and energy were not dulled by her severe macular degeneration rendering her almost blind. Board of Directors meetings moved along professionally. There were some who were simply not aware of her lack of sight.”

“Until the last year of her life our membership, our Board, City Hall, and so many of our residents could expect BARBARAEMAILS (one word). They came often: weekly, daily, hourly. Forget responding by phone, the line was always busy. The message went something like: ‘Your call is very important to us. Please stay on the line; your call will be answered in the order in which it was received. You are next in line. The wait time will be approximately one hour and twenty-two minutes.’ And everybody knew it was worth the wait.”

Finally, this from a longtime friend and by extension the Carmel Residents Association and the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. “There must be a new star shining over Carmel tonight. Good night and goodbye, Barbara.”