



L-R: Ed Graves, Martha Henderson, John Corse, Joan Campbell, Betty Lorenzi, Betsy Bruggner (Betty's daughter)

**Celebrating their 360-399 400 SC Meter Record Breaking Mixed Freestyle Relay set by
Graves, Campbell, Lorenzi, and Corse, at the 2017 Rowdy Gaines SCM Meet**

Remembering Betty Lorenzi

(5/23/1927 - 3/2/2023)

By Joan Campbell

Betty Would Say . . .

"SUCH A SMALL WORLD WE LIVE IN - AND THE LONGER WE LIVE THE SMALLER IT BECOMES!!"

As one of my best friends for many years, I can say that Betty remains so even in death. We shared our love of competition, our love of family (hers and mine), our love of that glass of Riesling wine (ha ha) and some of the difficulties of life.

Our initial introduction was one of our humorous moments. We had finished competing in the World Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand in 2002 and were part of a tour of the Island. My husband and I were including this as part of our 50th wedding anniversary and enjoying the itinerary and the compatible group.

Listening to the conversation of our companions, we picked up a name familiar to us – Marie Corridon, who received a Gold Medal as a member of the 4x100 meter freestyle relay at the 1948 Olympics. Betty noted that her 1948 Olympic trials competition against Marie had resulted in Betty's loss of an Olympic berth. Oops!! My husband used to date Marie and we were all friends at the beach club in Norwalk, CT!! Great conversation ensued. Don Puchalski from our Florida club realized then that they had Lake Geneva Wisconsin relationships. By the time we got home to the US we were all close friends and planning future competitions together.

Betty remained a "snowbird" and traveled back and forth between Wisconsin and Florida. She was impressed by the number of competitive meets we had as well as the competition. Betty and I traveled to many USMS meets and YMCA competitions, and to practices 5 days a week either in Dunedin or the Long Center in Clearwater. She joined our Florida Aquatic Combine Team and our coach Joe Biondi, first Coach of the Year in our Florida LMSC, made it his goal to polish the fine points of a naturally fantastic swimmer – AND THAT HE DID!! Betty was a great student and soon her times were dropping like a stone. Her years of swimming experience and expertise returned and she became STREAMLINED !! again.