



## **Carol Morrison (1937-2004)**

### Biographical Sketch by Jane Radcliffe, Archives Volunteer

Ralph and Irene Stover worked on a family dairy farm a few miles outside of Upper Sandusky, Ohio where they grew corn for feed and sold any extra for cash. They had two daughters, Carol, born 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1937, and Mary Jane born two years later. On the farm (homesteaded by Carol's family before Ohio was a state) the chores were divided: Jane did the outside work and Carol the household duties. They went to a tiny public school (approximately 100 students) in Nevada, Ohio. During the summer vacations, on Wednesdays, the girls got the day off from chores. They went into town, swam at the swimming pool and Carol came home with her arms full of library books. Carol graduated from high school in 1955, and went to work at the local Westinghouse plant.

Carol married a local man. They left Ohio and went to work on a ranch owned by a relative near the town of Wilcox, Arizona. She had always been curious and eager to learn about other peoples and how they lived. Now she had at her doorstep vastly different indigenous cultures, which became a source of endless fascination to her. Carol gave birth to a daughter, Alaire, and later decided to return to Upper Sandusky to be close to family. When Carol's first marriage ended she went back to work at the Westinghouse plant. In 1969 she met William Morrison and three years later they were married. Westinghouse promoted Bill to Headquarters in Pittsburgh, and they moved.

Once settled there, Bill encouraged Carol to take classes at the University of Pittsburgh. She chose Art and Anthropology as major and minor, and graduated summa cum laude in 1977. She earned a master's in Cultural Anthropology in 1979 and the university hired her to teach Native American Art courses. During that time, she illustrated three books for Carnegie Mellon Senior Professor Emeritus James L. Swauger on the Rock Art of Ohio, Kentucky, and New England, respectively. In 1984, she received the Apple for the Teacher Award for excellence in teaching at the University of Pittsburgh.

That same year, a Westinghouse promotion moved Bill and Carol to the San Francisco Bay Area. Shortly thereafter, Carol began to teach courses on indigenous cultures at local colleges: UC Berkeley, De Anza Community College, John F. Kennedy University, and CSU-Hayward. She also taught at the Academy. World Explorer Cruises offered Carol a position to teach on cruise ships where she taught classes that awarded CEU credits. She worked on over fifty cruises worldwide. She was an outstanding gourd artist, detail oriented researcher, and popular teacher with excellent student feedback. Her documented lecture notes on indigenous cultures, and her collected artifacts from around the world, are her legacy to all who come to see them.