

Jean Cope

Jean L. Cope was born in Houston, TX, July 2, 1945 to Adora and Leon Child. She graduated from Milby High School in 1964 and attended classes at UH, though she did not receive a degree. She has three children, Adora Broadway (Danny), Jeanna Balli (Jimmy) and Michael Herhold. She has six Grandchildren, Taylor and Dylan Broadway, Brandi, Coby and Cameron Balli and Brianna Herhold. Jean praises her former husband, Daniel, for his loving support during their 20+ years of marriage, and they remain the best of friends. She is engaged to Richard Meyers, with a spring 2010 Hawaiian wedding scheduled.

Jean was 28 years old before she started bowling regularly. For seven years, she bowled as many as 7 leagues a week, tournaments and endured Sunday morning practice sessions (boot camp), diligently working on timing and accuracy, elements that were especially critical during the time of limited equipment and lane conditions.

In addition to being a practicing hairdresser for over 30 years, Jean held a variety of jobs prior to 1983 when she began working in the Student Center at the University of Houston and became a Head Coach for the bowling team. In addition to her day-to-day duties, Jean supervised fundraising, athlete eligibility and always stressed the awareness and importance of proper behavior and sportsmanship while representing the school. During her tenure, two teams qualified for the National Championship with a best finish of 2nd Place.

All that long ago practice paid off as Jean has 3- 300 games, 5- 11-in-a- row awards and an 801 high series. In addition, she has been City Champion twice (2003 & 2004) in Pasadena, once in Houston. She is an 8- time State titlist (7- teams, 1- doubles). She has had High Association average 5- times (3- Pasadena). In the 1985-85 season, Jean carried a 213 average, which was high in Texas, and, sixth high in the nation. Jean has averaged over 200 for 25 years during her career. She was the 1996 Ladies Pro Tour Rookie of the Year. More recently, Jean has won Gold Medals in Singles and Doubles at the Senior Olympics every year from 2003 thru 2007.

Jean competed in the National Qualifying tournament for Team USA in 1993. The top eight finishers would represent the U.S. in international competition. Despite a tough condition, they were using four different “sport shots” across the lanes, she finished in 16th place.

All participants received a complimentary trip to the San Diego Zoo.

Five out of six Texas qualifiers bowled on the first squad, Jean stayed and rooted for the only Texan to get “B” squad, Sue Gregory, establishing a friendship that exists to this day. They made it to the zoo about dark, but only managed to see a “few bears”.

Jean will gladly assist and coach anyone. She only asks the person to be serious about wanting to improve, promise to listen and try her suggestions. She does not allow, “I can’t do that.” as an excuse.

She is a member of the Texas (2002) and Houston (1996) Bowling Halls of Fame.

Beginning in the 1970’s as a champion on the Southwest Women’s Masters Tour, to the 2000’s winning Gold Medals as a competitor in the Senior Olympics, Jean has established 30+ year legacy of bowling excellence to which any Hall of Famer could be compared.

We congratulate Jean Cope on this honor and proudly welcome her into the Pasadena Bowling Hall of Fame.