



Susan Lowy

April 15, 1951 - June 16, 2025

Susan Lowy, a beloved educator, writer, volunteer, and community leader, passed away peacefully on June 16, 2025, at the age of 74. Her life was a testament to the quiet strength of service, the power of education, and the joy of meaningful connection.

Born in Newton, Massachusetts, on April 15, 1951, Susan was the daughter of Dr. Louis Lowy, a respected professor of Gerontology at Boston University. Inspired by a lifelong love of learning, she graduated from Boston University with a double major in German and Education, later earning a Master's in Education while teaching middle school in Billerica, Massachusetts, where she nurtured the minds and hearts of her students for six years.

After moving to Washington, D.C., Susan transitioned into contract writing, developing training programs and later serving as President of a local ESL training program. It was in D.C. that she met Rob Harlan, a commercial airline pilot, during a cruise along the Potomac River. Their shared love of biking, boating, and travel led to a beautiful partnership that lasted the rest of her life.

Following Rob's retirement from PanAm and Delta in 1998, the couple moved to Florida. Susan worked for Goodwill Industries for 25 years, developing impactful educational content and supporting workforce development initiatives. In retirement, she remained deeply engaged in service,

volunteering at Spanish Pointe, Selby Library, the Senior Friendship Center, the Caring Collective Board, and serving on numerous committees at Plymouth Harbor. She was also recognized as the Conservation Partner of the Year by the Big Waters Land Trust.

Susan gave generously to her local community—serving as President of her condominium association for 14 years and as an active member of the Bird Key Yacht Club where she enjoyed the boating cruises and outings. She and Rob continued their shared passion for exploring bike trails across Florida and the Eastern United States, always finding beauty in the journey together. She was an avid kayaker and boater. She loved the outdoors.

Susan is survived by her devoted husband and life partner, Rob Harlan; stepdaughter Christian Segall; stepson Lew Segall; grandchildren Scott, Sawyer, and Garnett Segall; her brother Peter Lowy; sister-in-law Linda Lowy; and nieces Nina and Erica Lowy.

A celebration of Susan's life will be held on Wednesday, July 2, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. in MacNeil Chapel at Plymouth Harbor.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations to Goodwill Industries, or the Big Waters Land Trust in Susan's honor.

Condolences may be sent to Rob Harlan T614.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 2. 3:30 PM (ET)

Plymouth Harbor - MacNeil Chapel
700 John Ringling Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34236

Tribute Wall

CL

“ I have been blessed with being friends with Susan since high-school. We have lived on opposite coasts, but have continued our friendship by keeping in touch. I will miss her greatly. My condolences to her entire family.

Carol Lloyd - June 26, 2025 at 06:16 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Susan Lowy.



June 26, 2025 at 02:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Susan Lowy.

June 26, 2025 at 02:57 PM

SL

“ Very saddened to hear of the passing of Susan. She touched many lives throughout the years to include mine. Her genuine love of teaching and training impacted many. Condolences and prayers to her husband and family during this moment. Remembering you always.

Shannon Lummert-Helmer - June 23, 2025 at 03:22 PM

JM

“ Susan was an important member of the Selby Gardens Historic Spanish Point Campus archival volunteer team. She has been working for several years to put great historical information into the hands of all of our volunteers. During that time she has become a great friend and will be greatly missed! - John McCarthy V.P. Regional History Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

John McCarthy - June 22, 2025 at 11:58 AM

KP

Working at the Welcome Center at Historic Spanish Point, it was always such a joy seeing Susan's smile as she walked up to greet us and converse about "the latest". She was so very kind, personable and had such a natural way of making whoever she was chatting with feel important. I feel very blessed to have known her. She will be sorely missed. My heartfelt condolences to her wonderful family, who she spoke of so often.

Katie Patten - June 22, 2025 at 02:03 PM

CW

I'm so grateful to have gotten to know Susan through her volunteer work at Selby Gardens' Historic Spanish Point campus. She was kind, generous, curious, and so much fun to talk to. I'll miss hearing her fabulous book recommendations and stories about traveling to see her beloved family. My deepest sympathies are with you all.

Caitlin Whiteaker - July 01, 2025 at 10:20 AM

RW

“ Susan was my treasured friend. Ruth

ruth williams - June 20, 2025 at 08:10 AM