

New Flying Award to encourage women of all ages to fly!

The British Columbia Coast Chapter 99s are remembering Jean Prior with a one-time Award of \$500, available to a woman pilot in Western Canada to help her continue in her aviation career, hobby, or education. Application deadline is July 31st, 2018.

Jean and her husband owned a Cessna 190 and she enjoyed many years of flying right-seat around Canada and the USA with Bruce. When Jean's son and career matured, she said "I'd like to get my licence!" and she did. They bought her a beautiful Cessna 150, and Jean got her licence in 1999 and joined the British Columbia Coast Chapter of the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots.



Jean was an intrepid supporter of general aviation and an active member in several flying groups including the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (Boundary Bay Flying Club COPA Flight 5 and Langley Aero Club COPA Flight 175), the Recreational Aircraft Association (Delta Chapter 85), and the Cessna 150/152 Club, but we got to know her when she joined our 99s chapter in 1999.

Jean was known for her warm welcome for all members at meetings, always asking how our flying was going. "How is your training progressing? Where have you been? Tell me about it." We could count on her to volunteer at our annual Poker Run tables and at our 99s airshow booths where she greeted women and girls with a big smile as they strolled by. "If I can do it, you can do it!" When she caught a glimmer of their interest, she was right there with her encouragement. She paid the first year 99s

membership fee for a number of young student pilots just to help them get going and to introduce them to the camaraderie and support of the 99s.

Jean knew the value of traditional hospitality and always showed up with lots of good food, knowing that a full plate makes for a happy meeting. She was beautifully dressed as in this stylish portrait of her with her beautiful C150, wearing her matching outfit.



Even as Jean progressed through her final illness, she attended our events with grace and laughter. She donated a collection of her exquisitely hand-knitted tuques which we auctioned as a fundraiser at a West Canada Section 99s meeting in Penticton, BC. Proceeds went towards our scholarship fund, which has supported women pilots with an annual scholarship of \$1500 since 1996.

In conclusion, the British Columbia Coast Chapter of the 99s is happy to present this one-time special financial award to remember Jean and all that she did to make our chapter a warm and happy place.