

CAROLYN (SLEPNIKOFF) LACY '52



Carolyn (Slepnikoff) Lacy '52 has spent her life serving others in her community and her church. From a very young age, she learned leadership skills and was raised in a household where excellence was the standard expectation. As a child, she became an accomplished pianist, an accurate typist, and an organizational guru.

After MBA, Carolyn majored in Office Administration and minoring in Chemistry at Pacific Union College (PUC). While there, she was on the college newspaper and yearbook staffs, and was president of the Women of Alpha Gamma club, learning that providing services to others was an important contribution to any organization.

Following her graduation from PUC, Carolyn served as secretary to the Director of Development and Public Relations at Loma Linda University, where she set up a file of foundations donating to higher education, worked on university publications, prepared catalogs for the professional schools, and was involved in fundraising. But her love for direct student contact brought her back to MBA where she taught English for one year. In 1961, she worked as a secretary to three trial attorneys in San Francisco before returning to PUC to teach in the Department of Office Administration. While there, she met and married her life partner, Curtis Lacy, then moved to Seattle where she worked for 15 years as manager of two law firms while Curtis furthered his education at the University of Washington.

During the next ten years, Carolyn acted on her inherent entrepreneurial instincts, invested heavily in the latest computer equipment, and became the owner/operator of Chief Executive Offices, a start-up that leased office space to new ventures while also providing business services to her clients. A quick learner and always eager to embrace change, Carolyn continually remained at the forefront of the software revolution of the 80s and 90s, equipping herself with expert knowledge of numerous programs including Microsoft, Intuit, and Adobe products. This knowledge led her to starting yet another business, The Word Shop, where she offered word processing/desktop publishing services. Her work ethic, product quality, and dedication to improving everything she touched, brought her countless clients who wanted and were willing to pay for her high-quality work.

A pillar at the Green Lake SDA Church in Seattle, WA, Carolyn has served as Office Administrator and chief go-to person since 1999. She is reliable, a woman of quiet competence and utter discretion, who serves the needs of the congregation without ever drawing attention to herself—to the point that few people realize the extent of her contribution. Recently, Carolyn volunteered her services to the Association of Adventist Women (AAW), and immediately improved the quality of the magazine, *The Adventist Woman*. Former president of AAW, Verla Kwiram, said this of Carolyn, “There is no one I would rather have volunteering for AAW. Smart, capable, resourceful, and experienced in the publishing process, she made herself invaluable to the cause of AAW.”

MBA is proud to recognize Carolyn (Slepnikoff) Lacy for the services she has so freely given to the numerous organizations in her community that include universities, churches, authors, attorneys, The Seattle Symphony, and The National Audubon Society. In 2016, Carolyn was recognized as Woman of the Year by the Association of Adventist Women for her loyalty to the cause of women in Adventism. She is a tremendous asset to any team she joins with her remarkable attention to detail, organization, and genuine interest in the welfare of any organization to which she provides services. Thank you, Carolyn, for the standard of excellence you bring to anything you are involved in and for your devotion and dedication to selflessly serving others.

Originally written by Verla Kwiram