

In Memoriam

Mollie Pier



Project Chicken Soup Board Member and Client Services/Kitchen Volunteer

An extraordinary woman was born in New York City on August 6, 1920. After moving to California in the early 1950s, Mollie raised three sons with her husband, David, and began her life in service to others, working for the Los Angeles school district for 25 years, before retiring in 1981.

In the late 1970s, Mollie's son, Nathaniel, told his mother he was gay. Mollie joined Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and became an activist for gay civil rights; work that Mollie continued for many years in myriad ways, including: advocating for marriage equality, talking to youth at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and supporting the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles.

After graduating from Albert Einstein Medical School, Nathaniel became one of the first doctors to treat people with AIDS in New York City. Dr. Pier was widely recognized for his knowledge, skills and compassion. In December 1989, Nathaniel died of AIDS. Determined that Nathaniel's memory and short life would not be forgotten, Mollie played a pivotal role in organizing Project Chicken Soup (PCS) knowing she needed to turn her grief into positive action to help people living with HIV/AIDS.

For more than 25 years, Mollie spent 4 hours twice each month calling clients prior to meal deliveries and leading a team in the PCS kitchen. While she had recently reduced her kitchen activities, Mollie continued using her cooking skills to nurture people with illnesses in memory of her own son who used his medical knowledge to help people with HIV/AIDS.

Mollie projected love, dedication and inspiration to all at PCS who came in contact with her: clients, volunteers, Board members, and staff as well as the community at large. Mollie will be missed so very much. May her memory always be for a blessing.

