

# Introduce Yourself: Carrie Sussman & Jerry Lank

## What's Your Story?



Hello, my name is Carrie Sussman. My partner, Jerry Lank, and I decided to introduce ourselves together in one bio. Jerry and I, both widows, met at a dinner event held by an ancillary group of the Plato Society of Los Angeles in 2016. I am an Angelino born in Los Angeles, now living in Torrance. Jerry was born in Montreal and moved for work to the LA area in 1957. Both of us had long marriages, Jerry 63 years to Dorothy and me 49 years to Bob. Being together with a partner again, felt right. Love is good! We recommend it. We decided that in the 21st century we could hook up like younger people and so we have.

We both love to travel. My passion has been adventure travel. I trekked gorillas in Africa, viewed the orangutans and Komodo dragons in Indonesia, and saw the Sing Sing festival in Papua New Guinea and eight kinds of penguins in Antarctica and South Georgia etc. My adventures have taken me and my cameras to all seven continents. I love photography!! Jerry has lots of great stories about his hiking and bed and breakfast trips.

Recently we saw the polar bears in Churchill, CA and the glaciers in Glacier National Park. A river cruise in Europe is scheduled for spring 2020.

Career-wise, Jerry was an engineer doing analysis for large and small Southern California companies. Northrup Grumman was his last position. He graduated from McGill University in Montreal with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and in the 1960's pursued his graduate education at USC while working full time with a wife and children. After much effort, he received his PhD. He enjoys Plato classes about science and engineering and is an avid reader.

My bachelor's degree in physical therapy also came from USC. Later I pursued and earned my doctor of physical therapy degree from Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona. I worked in many areas of physical therapy from babies to geriatrics. Geriatrics was my special interest. This led to a business providing rehabilitation services to patients in skilled nursing facilities. I developed expertise using physical therapy technology to help heal chronic wounds. Requests for lecturing, writing articles for professional journals and coediting of textbooks followed. My Plato session choices vary from science to social science and politics.

Jewishly, I have a lifelong religious commitment, keep a kosher home and love celebrating Shabbat and all holidays. In addition to membership in Temple Isaiah with Jerry, I am a member of Chabad of South Bay. Jerry is a 30-year-plus member of Temple Isaiah. He has a strong cultural connection to Judaism. We each have one son and one daughter. Jerry's children are local. No grandchildren. My son lives in Claremont and my daughter in Portland, OR. I have three beautiful, and smart, of course, granddaughters who live in three different states. Since this bio is about US we will save bragging for personal connections. Our philosophy is summed up by this quote: "To get the full value of joy, you must have someone to divide it with."