

March 30, 2010  
**For Immediate Release**

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# Memorial Service Set for Presidential Advisor, Activist Midge Costanza

A “Celebration of Life” for District Attorney Public Affairs Officer [Midge Costanza](#) will be held on Saturday, April 24 at 2:00 p.m. at the Town and Country Hotel in Mission Valley. The event will be open to the public. Further details will be forthcoming.

Margaret “Midge” Costanza died on March 23 in San Diego, California after a battle with cancer. Midge was a tireless advocate and impassioned champion for equality, justice and human rights. She was the first woman to hold the office of Assistant to the President of the United States under President Jimmy Carter. Midge served as a link between the President and a wide range of groups who previously had limited access to the White House, including women, youth, seniors, minorities, gays and lesbians, and the disabled.

Midge moved to San Diego in 1990, where she became an active and vital member of the community, working on the campaigns of Congresswoman Lynn Schenk, Sen. Barbara Boxer, and Kathleen Brown. She served on the Board of Directors of San Diego National Bank and co-taught classes at San Diego State University. From 2000 to 2003, she was Special Assistant to California Governor Gray Davis, serving as a liaison to the Governor for women’s groups and as a speaker for him throughout California.

In 2005, she joined the office of San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie M. Dumanis as a Public Affairs Officer. She was assigned to the Communications and Community Relations Division with an emphasis on the prevention of elder abuse. She organized the office’s Consumer Protection Days, Citizens Academies and Women’s Advisory Council.

In 2003, Midge formed the Midge Costanza Institute for the Study of Politics and Public Policy, affiliated with the Women’s Studies Department at San Diego State University. Through the Institute, Midge would speak frequently to young people about the importance of participation in government and politics.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the [Midge Costanza Institute for Politics and Public Policy](#). Checks can be made out to the “Midge Costanza Institute,” P.O. Box 15523, San Diego, CA 92175.

**NOTE: Questions about the “Celebration of Life” event can be directed to Patti Roscoe at [proscoe@pra.com](mailto:proscoe@pra.com).**

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