

Remembering Vivian Kiley

Sharp and witty, chic and stylish, always a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye, Vivian Fitzpatrick Kiley, one of the founders of our OC/LB Kiwi Chapter, will truly be missed by all.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Vivian Fitzpatrick and her family moved to Long Beach, California in 1944 where she attended Woodrow Wilson High School and graduated in the summer of 1947. Vivian earned her wings with American Airlines and began flying in 1950. At that time in the airline industry, falling in love and marrying meant you were now grounded. After flying for three years, Vivian met and married her husband, Richard Kiley, in 1953. In the following years their family grew to include two sons, Michael and John.




L.B. Wilson High 1947

Though Vivian's wings were "clipped", she always retained her love for American Airlines and flying. She was active in the Kiwi sales program sponsored by AA, which kept her connected to the former job she missed so much.

American Airlines

PRESENTING THE

Kiwi Sales Staff




**Goodwill Representatives
And Travel Advisors**

**Who
are the
Kiwis?**

The Kiwi bird of New Zealand has wings but cannot fly. The Kiwis of American Airlines were originally a group of former flight attendants who have organized a national club named for the legendary bird since they, too, have been "grounded" and no longer fly.

Members of the Kiwi Club maintain an active interest in American Airlines and the airline industry. They are involved in charitable work and community activities.



Our Kiwi Manager



Vivian Kiley flew three years for American Airlines. She is past President of the Huntington Beach —Long Beach Chapter of Kiwis. Her hobbies are golf, bridge, and interior decoration. She resides in Long Beach with her husband and two sons.

Vivian was the Manager of the So Cal Sales Reps who earned flight passes for their representation.

The Kiwi Club began as the first organization of it's kind when their charter was awarded at the first delegate meeting in Fort Worth, Texas in 1952. New chapters began to form across the United States.

Vivian originally joined the LAX chapter which began in 1953, but due to distance and lack of freeways at the time, several members from Orange County & Long Beach decided to form their own chapter. Vivian Kiley, Mim Lyon, Karen Hanley, Mim Stickler and Shelia Troy formed the Orange County/Long Beach chapter on March 20, 1959. The name changed several times through the next decades. Chapters merged and then split into new affiliations. OC/LB received it's official affiliation again on October 18, 1985

DAILY PILOT
Wednesday, March 10, 1971

New Chapter Forms

Formation of a Kiwi Chapter in the Huntington Beach, Seal Beach, Los Alamitos and Long Beach areas will be considered during a potluck salad luncheon Tuesday, March 16.

The meeting will take place at 10-30 a.m. in the Huntington Harbour home of Mrs. Edward E. Strickler.

Kiwi Clubs are national in scope and include any former American Airlines stewardesses. Qualified women in the area may obtain more information by calling Mrs. Strickler, Mrs. Fred L. Troy, Rossmore or Mrs. Richard Kiley, Long Beach.

THE JOURNAL MARCH 10, 1971

KIWI CLUB MAY BE FORMED IN AREA

A pot luck salad luncheon will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 16, to consider the formation of a Kiwi chapter in the Huntington Beach, Seal Beach, Los Alamitos and Long Beach areas. The get together will take place at the home of Mrs. Edward E. Strickler of Huntington Harbour.

The Kiwi Club is comprised of former American Airlines stewardesses and all those living in the area are invited to attend.

Anyone interested in this is requested to get in touch with either Mmes. Fred Troy, Rossmore; Richard Kiley, Long Beach; or Edward E. Strickler.

Kiwi Club in 1971 when the Club had changed affiliation to include Seal Beach, Huntington Beach and Los Alamitos



KIWI CLUB FORMING—Now forming is a new Kiwi Club, open only to former stewardesses from American Airlines. The club is an international organization and anyone interested in membership may contact Mrs. Richard Kiley, of 21 Dorado Park Estates, 421-2106. Luncheons and social events with husbands are planned. Shown (L to R) are Mrs. David Olson, of Rossmore, wearing her old uniform; Mrs. Fred Troy, of Rossmore; Mrs. Kiley; and Mrs. Laurence Bartow, of Rossmore.

Kiwis Club meetings were featured in the Society section of the local newspapers. Here in the Daily Pilot, Vivian Kiley is seated in the center of the couch

Vivian, So Active Through the Years...



Vivian with Diana Schlesinger 2019

*Vivian's 95th Birthday Celebration
April 2024*



Vivian with her caretaker Gabby, Mary Lou Arnold and her daughter, Dana, planned the celebration.

Vivian - 95 years young



We will miss you...

