



In Memory, Lenore Janis March 4, 1934 – January 31, 2021 - by Chelsea LeMar

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What a pair of shoes to fill.

Back in 2015 when I accepted the role of executive director at Professional Women in Construction, two things were very clear:

This is a passionate, dynamic group of women.

The previous leader was a groundbreaking thought leader who believed in the mission of PWC and devoted her life to making construction a welcoming place for women.

At the beginning, I felt like I had entered the brain of a brilliant, fast-paced person who had a vision for how the construction industry should look and built a foundation to work from. Now, when certain things crop up or a certain idea is formed, I think, that has Lenore written all over it. And I embrace

it.

Last week when I received word that Lenore had passed, I reflected on what she accomplished, most prominently, the founding of PWC. I imagine what she had to go through to bring this organization through the 30+ years she was at the helm. I hope she knew that I have a deep respect and gratitude for her and her work.

It is humbling to enter the office of someone like Lenore. It is also exceptionally rewarding. I have always been inspired by her and committed to carrying on her legacy at PWC.

The Board of Directors and I have decided to name an annual scholarship the Lenore Janis Scholarship. The details have yet to be worked out, but it will be given out at the Salute to Women of Achievement (one of her staple events) annually to deserving women looking to enter the AEC industry.

Thank you, Lenore, for your dedication and profound contribution to PWC, the NYC construction industry and beyond.

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