

Remembering Jenny



Jenny T-Shirt \$10.00  
Adult ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL)  
Youth ☐ (L)



8x10 Photo of Jenny & Shirley  
☐ Autographed by Carol and Scott \$10.00



“The Urban Elephant” \$30.00  
Featuring Jenny & Shirley’s reunion  
☐ (VHS ONLY)



“Just For Elephants” by Carol Buckley  
☐ Unsigned \$17.00 ea.  
☐ Autographed by Carol Buckley \$30.00  
☐ With Jenny Tote, both autographed by Carol Buckley \$100.00



Commemorative “Jenny” Tote Bag  
☐ Beige with 4-color imprint \$24.00



☐ Version 1  
Bunny, Jenny & Shirley



Elephant Photo Holiday Cards  
☐ Pack of 12 w/ envelopes \$20.00  
*Inside message “Peace on Earth, Sanctuary To All”*



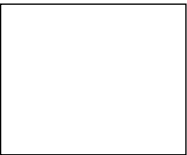
All proceeds from the purchase of Sanctuary merchandise benefit the elephants. Use the order form enclosed or shop online at [www.elephants.com/estore](http://www.elephants.com/estore)

Jenny was the only elephant at the Sanctuary to have a fully-raised endowment. However, Shirley’s endowment is at less than half the \$185,000 needed to generate the annual income for her care. If you’d like to make a financial gift to honor Jenny’s legacy, we ask that you consider a contribution to Shirley’s endowment in her name.



To improve the lives of captive elephants, please contact your legislators.

the Elephant Sanctuary®  
in Tennessee  
P.O. Box 393  
Hohenwald, TN 38462  
[www.elephants.com](http://www.elephants.com)



Jenny

1972 - October 17, 2006

In honor of Jenny we will play to our heart’s content, sing unabashed to the open skies and live each day with a joy that Jenny taught us.

We will not focus on sorrow, only thankfulness for the gift of having known Jenny.

the Elephant Sanctuary®  
in Tennessee



Jenny with Scott Blais

In Tribute To Jenny

FALL 2007

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee

501 (C) (3) Nonprofit Organization

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Jenny graced us with her carefree nature, her ability to transform herself, and her deep affection for family. Upon her arrival in 1996, our third resident, Jenny, beat all the odds. Her 1800 mile trip from Nevada to Tennessee turned out to be seemingly effortless from the moment she boarded until she disembarked. Not a problem, not a complaint. In the outskirts of Las Vegas, Nevada, Jenny was held up in a ramshackled private animal shelter.

For 18 months we battled for her release. It seemed we would never succeed. The USDA was powerless, local authorities had no authority and the owner of the shelter hoarded Jenny like a prized possession. The problem was Jenny was living in squalor. With an injured knee, serious weight loss and infected feet, Jenny stood day after day in a tiny dirt yard, barely big enough to turn around. Finally word came: the owner was tired of fighting and had agreed to turn Jenny over to the Sanctuary. What joyous news!

On the day of her move, it was discovered that Jenny was literally penned-in. Plywood barriers, animal cages and piles of discarded appliances nearly blocked Jenny’s escape route. As she limped along the narrow corridor created by the debris, one could only hope that Jenny did not choose this moment to lash out at her captors. Jenny made everyone’s heart skip a beat when, without warning, she spun around while approaching the transport trailer. But instead of running off into the endless desert, Jenny maneuvered herself until she was standing in the trailer... backwards. It was later discovered that this was the way Jenny had traveled for years, in an overcrowded circus trailer which left only this tiny spot for her to stand. From that moment until her passing, Jenny continued to bless all she met. Her enthusiasm for life and adventure was contagious. She wasted no time sulking about her past, which had been seriously abusive. Instead, she lived her life as if she were free.

Prior to the Sanctuary, Jenny spent her entire captive life performing in the circus. Known as a ‘runner,’ Jenny would take her friend Amy with her when she had the chance to dash away from the circus grounds. They never got far, and paid dearly for their escape efforts. One account from a career elephant trainer named Johnny was that Jenny was kept on chains continually to prevent her from running away. He had known Jenny, even worked with her on the Carson and Barnes Circus. He stated that at watering time, which was done with a large trash can on wheels, Jenny would often be passed by since her chains prevented her from reaching the water. Johnny showed no remorse when relaying this story; instead he held Jenny in contempt for her rebellious attempt to get away.

But all of her troubles were left behind the moment Jenny took her

first step onto Sanctuary grounds. From day one she was pure joy; playful, enthusiastic, and ready for any adventure. Tarra and Barbara were her first companions, and then Shirley arrived. What followed was nothing less than miraculous. Jenny and Shirley were united after a 23-year separation. Their recognition was documented in the award-winning PBS documentary. *The Urban Elephant*. Their joy was contagious, and their love for each other the beginning of the elephant family they were responsible for creating.



Jenny lived her life to the fullest each and every day. She welcomed new family members unconditionally, and loved with intensity beyond compare.

Shirley was at the center, the patient matriarch, with her ‘sassy daughter’ Jenny at the helm. Even though Shirley was the matriarch, Jenny clearly could persuade Shirley in any direction she wished. Their affection for each other was palpable. Shirley did her best to ensure that Jenny stayed safe; sometimes overcoming insurmountable odds. Like the time Jenny came careening down a steep hill, with no concern for her welfare. Shirley struggled to reach the embankment in time to shoulder Jenny and break what could have been a tremendous fall. Jenny was all smiles, silly and excited. Shirley was relieved though her body language clearly demonstrated her concern for Jenny’s welfare. Jenny savored the constant pampering. Their relationship has left an indelible mark on the Sanctuary and all of the elephants and caregivers that spend our lives here.

Records indicate that while at the Hawthorn Corporation, Jenny was placed with a breeding bull even though she was not cycling and therefore not receptive to the male’s advances. This triggered the male’s aggression—an elephant who had been acquired from the Portland Zoo as ‘surplus’ because of his aggressive behavior toward females. Portland would not use him for breeding because of his dangerous nature, but the Hawthorn Corporation paid no heed. As a result, Jenny was permanently crippled by this event. She lived with her injury for nearly 15 years until finally succumbing to an undetectable infection that originated in that injured knee.

This injury sustained so many years ago ultimately claimed Jenny, not only cutting her life short, but breaking the hearts of all who loved her so dearly. However, we chose to follow Jenny’s example to not dwell on injustices of the past, but to instead honor Jenny by playing to our heart’s content, singing unabashed to the open skies and living each day with a joy that Jenny taught us. We will not focus on sorrow, only thankfulness for the gift of having known Jenny.



# Memories of Jenny

*Although death is a permanent loss of the physical body, it can mean the beginning of a greater consciousness between loved ones.*



Jenny was gleaming with affection for Bunny from the moment she arrived.



While potatoes remained her favorite treat, Jenny never passed up a pumpkin!



Jenny and Tarra shared a close bond and friendship that originated several years before Shirley arrived.



Jenny was an expert at finding underground springs and excavating mud holes.



Jenny loved to browse in the woods.



Rain or shine, Jenny and Shirley enjoyed life!



In a sign of motherly protection, Shirley watched over Jenny while she slept.

*On the morning of October 17, 2006, surrounded by her loving family of elephants and caregivers, Jenny’s breathing became labored. She was relaxed in her process, exhibiting no signs of the fright or struggle one might expect from a dying individual. When Jenny did appear to be a little uncomfortable, her caregivers provided homeopathic remedies which Jenny accepted willingly, relaxing deeper into her process. Once her death was accepted as imminent, every effort was made to assist dear Jenny to move naturally and peacefully towards the other side, neither hurrying the process nor impeding it. Jenny made her transition with profound grace and beauty. In a blessing to herself and her attentive family, Jenny’s final days, hours and minutes were filled with a deep sense of joy and connectedness to her family, held in the arms and trunks of all who loved her so dearly.*



After 23 years of separation, Shirley and Jenny’s reunion helped open the world’s eyes to the deep, emotional bonds that all elephants share.



Carol Buckley with Shirley and Jenny.

*On October 17, 2006 at 6:35pm CST, with her family at her side, Jenny’s breathing slowed and for the first time became noticeably shallow. On one exhalation she released a deep guttural sound from the base of her trunk, bringing Bunny and Tarra immediately to her side. Shirley had moved away—we now realize why. Shirley sensed that Jenny’s death was very near, her sorrow was overwhelmingly heavy. To lose Jenny for a second time was more than Shirley could take. For the next few minutes, Jenny uttered the baritone rich vibration with each exhale; it was not anguish, nor pain; she was calm and relaxed and appeared to be gently announcing her departure from this world into the next. With the grace of a swan gliding effortlessly across the clear glass surface of a pristine lake, Jenny slipped from this world without the slightest twinge or pain; she was gone. Tarra and Bunny remained silently at Jenny’s side throughout the night and the following day until Jenny’s body was placed in her grave. Then Bunny joined a despondent Shirley, painfully racked with grief, who stood alone a distance from Jenny’s gravesite. The two intertwined trunks, leaning affectionately against each other. Their loss was heavy in the air.*



Caregivers always knew they would find the more elusive Bunny (left) somewhere near Jenny and Shirley in the habitat. These three were inseparable.



Jenny arrived at the Sanctuary in 1996 to join Tarra and Barbara. Over the next ten years, Jenny would welcome six more sisters into her herd—and bask in all the extra attention!



Delhi and Jenny shared a special fondness for one another, too.

*Since Jenny’s passing, Bunny and Shirley have become inseparable “spinster sisters,” lovingly attentive to one another. To her sheer delight, Tarra now provides Shirley with a mothering focus in Jenny’s absence. This has proven to be a sweet arrangement that brings much-needed joy and has helped to counter their pain of losing Jenny.*



Jenny and Shirley in a soft bed of native ferns.



Shirley and Jenny both carried crippling leg injuries from their circus days, but that never stopped them from roaming far and wide.