



Joni Webb

November 20, 1954 - October 9, 2023

Loving wife, mother, sister, and loyal friend, passed away unexpectedly at home on October 9, 2023, from sudden health complications. Joni Cohen Webb was born November 20, 1954, she was preceded in death by her parents, Ralph D. Cohen, Sonia Zubowski Cohen, Betty Rae Cohen, and her brother Steven Cohen. Joni is survived by her husband Benjamin Keith Webb, her daughter Sarah Elisabeth Webb Duncan (Robert), and her sisters Cathy Wise (Robert) and Melanie Chotiner. She is also survived by her many loving cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and her beloved dog, Nellie. Joni studied Interior Design at The University of Texas at Austin and was a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi.

Joni's life truly blossomed when she met her soulmate, Benjamin Keith Webb. The evening her father and mother met Ben for the first time, Ralph proposed that Ben marry his daughter. On February 13, 1988, as it was predestined, Ben and Joni wed. After years of trying to start a family, on March 29, 1991, Joni and Ben welcomed their only child, Sarah Elisabeth Webb. Joni's family was her pride and joy. She called them "The Three Musketeers". Endless memories were made in their beautifully decorated home in West University Place, Texas, and at their summer retreat in South Padre Island, Texas. In June 2022, Ben and Joni accomplished their ultimate goal and moved down to Galveston, Texas. They both found peace and happiness living by the beach and were eager to create new memories.

Ahead of her time, Joni was a pioneer in the art of interior design blogging during the early 2000s. Her blog, Cote de Texas, had an international following. Staying abreast of the latest technology and design trends, she was always plugged into the internet. Known for her loyalty, generosity, kindness, and of course, her impeccable taste. Not only did Joni leave her mark on many homes, but she also left her mark on many people's hearts forever.

A private graveside service was held at Congregation Beth Israel Memorial Garden, with Rabbi Adrienne Scott officiating. Joni's final wish would have been that any donations in her memory be made to either the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston (www.houstonjewish.org) or to the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Beth Israel Memorial Garden

1101 Antoine Dr.
Houston, TX 77055

Tribute Wall

AP

“ For a very long time, I always looked forward to Joni Webb's posts. She dove deep into her subjects and was ahead of her time. So sorry to learn of her death, and she will be remembered fondly for her style, intelligence and being a trailblazer in the world of blogging. I still go back to my favorite blogs to enjoy her design, generosity to share ideas and sources and bringing things to my attention for those design-obsessed.....

April - January 23, 2025 at 09:35 PM

RF

“ Joni was so dedicated to her readers. Once, after a hurricane, she published her blog while connecting her laptop to her car! I was so appreciative since I looked forward to her posts. Of course, I am sorry for her family's loss. I thank her for her work.

Reader Gina in Florida - July 30, 2024 at 08:16 PM

MI

“ Condolences for your loss. I credit Joni's blog to solidifying and really making way for my home decor taste to come to fruition. I'm a 30-something mom and so admired her timeless taste and wonderful blog. I continue to reference it for ideas. May she rest in peace. Sincerely, Miranda from Houston

Miranda - July 21, 2024 at 10:16 PM

VF

“ I am so so sorry to hear of your beloved mother and wife’s passing. Cote de Texas was the first blog I ever read and continued reading until I searched a little bit harder today to find what happened. Joni and I are the same age. I can’t tell you how much reading her lengthy researched posts meant to me. I learned a great deal, was always inspired, was interested in her family, moves and opinions. My heart is heavy today for you all and for me as well. She was a class act. Valerie in southern ca

valerie mcleod ferraro - January 26, 2024 at 09:10 PM

CM

“ I accidentally learned today of Joni’s passing and I feel devastated. She was an incredible writer and researcher with her blog subjects, and many times I read them, amazed at the detail she showed. I followed her for well over 10 years, and learned so much from her. I give her credit for teaching me everything I know about French furniture, and what I know is only a drop of what she knew. I enjoyed our Instagram chats about politics, and it grieves me that I never was able to meet her in person. My heart goes out to her darling Ben and her precious Elisabeth. She loved you both so much. She was a delight, and a gift to so many you never knew. Thank you for sharing your beautiful Joni with the world. She will be missed by many.

Cyndia Montgomery - January 22, 2024 at 07:11 PM

AN

“ A light has gone out.
Ann

ann - December 27, 2023 at 12:05 PM

KE

“Gosh, I don't know what to say. With little time to myself I would save my Cote de Texas posts for when I really could sit down, read and savor Joni's discovery's. I loved going back and forth from her writing to the accompanying photos and always amazed at the attention to details she would notice. Wonderful investigator. It was like going to school with her when I read her blogs and being with a friend. Her voice in my head while sharing personal stories of her life made me feel humble and close to someone I knew I would never meet. Cote de Texas was the only blog I read. I valued my time as she did her followers. So I crawled into bed tonight with my little one finally asleep and thought, "Ok, here's a chance to catch up with Joni." It was weird because I was having difficulty finding her last few posts in my mail, and I knew they had come in because I flagged them for future reading. My phone would not go back in history far enough so I just googled Cote de Texas but still didn't realize Joni had passed. I was looking for a particular piece I had left off with and couldn't wait to finish. I got more specific with her name and I was stunned, had to read the headline a few times. I couldn't believe it. Just felt so deflated. Separated. I'm so sorry about your loss. I got up to check on my little one and walked back around my bed with see grass under foot, I whispered to myself, "What am I going to do with all of this see grass Joni?" I chuckled. For some reason I knew she would too. Sincerely and thankfully. I do hope I can continue to revisit Joni in her blogs moving forward.

Kerrin - November 24, 2023 at 10:55 PM

WH

“ Dear Ben and Elizabeth,

I just learned to me great shock of the passing of your beloved Joni. You and your entire family have my deepest sympathies.


Like so many others, I only knew her through her marvelous blog, later becoming friends on both Facebook and other venues, where we got to know one another a little better. I have always loved her blog, both for the depth of knowledge she so generously shared, but also for the humor and warm joie de vivre she always shared. She was a real gem, and the world is a much poorer place without her in it.

I hope time and your happy memories will help ease the sharpness of the pain you feel and being you solace. May her memory be forever a blessing.

Love and Shalom,

Wendy Hoechstetter

Wendy Hoechstetter - November 20, 2023 at 11:14 PM

 Laura
Gabriel

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I felt like I knew your Mom from her many beautiful posts. It was a great day around here to see her column show up in my email... I would make a cup of tea, head upstairs to the study and settle in for a great few minutes of beautiful architecture, design and thoughts. God speed Joni.*

Laura Gabriel - November 20, 2023 at 09:40 AM

LA

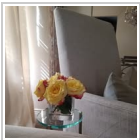
“ So sad to hear this news. She was truly an educator-- I learned so much from her posts. They were more detailed and extensively researched than any other posts I have ever read. I was looking forward to her Christmas gifts post. This is a huge loss for the design community-- she really broke the mold.
Laurie

Laurie - November 03, 2023 at 11:52 AM

KS

“ My deepest condolences to Ben, Elizabeth and extended family. I am shocked and saddened by this sudden loss for you and all of us who looked forward with eagerness to reading about other designers work or where to go shopping or find the best artisans to hire for your projects.
She certainly gave my late husband wonderful praise on numerous occasions which in turn we remain grateful.
May you hearts heal quickly and your memories remain long
Very best
Kathi Stringer

Kathleen Stringer - October 31, 2023 at 04:10 PM



“ Candice Jackson lit a candle in memory of Joni Webb



Candice Jackson - October 31, 2023 at 02:26 PM

PA

“ Oh, just heard this sad news! Heartbroken! Like so many here, one of the first blogs I ever followed. Irreplaceable.

Patricia - October 31, 2023 at 01:46 PM

PA

“ Joni was my favorite author - hands down. I have never enjoyed another person's work as much as I relished hers. So sad we will no longer have the opportunity to read her blog, but so very happy she shared her gifts with the world for as long as she did. I read Cote de Texas for years and always knew from her articles how much design mattered to her but, more than that, how deeply Joni loved her family. My condolences to her husband and daughter. I will keep you in my prayers. Joni, rest in peace.

Patti - October 31, 2023 at 09:47 AM

BF

“ So very sorry for the family and also selfishly for myself. NO ONE documented and researched a post like Joni. I loved her blog and will continue look at past postings. I feel like I lost a friend. So very sorry.

Beth Fox - October 31, 2023 at 09:20 AM

LR

“ I am sorry I am only now seeing this. This is a devastating blow and I find myself weeping over the loss of a friend I never met but loved dearly from afar. Her words were just right. Her posts full of insight and humor. She will be terribly missed. My condolences to the family for the loss of a dear wife and mother.

Lyn R. - October 27, 2023 at 06:39 PM

DL

“ My heart is so full of sadness for each of you. Though I never met Joni, living here in the Houston area, I felt like she was a neighbor. I was so happy each time a new Cote blog was posted and further enjoyed her Instagram posts. Was thrilled when she commented. She will continue to be in my thoughts as well as all of you as we move through days, processing this loss. May God bless and keep you all.
Debe

Debe Leone - October 24, 2023 at 11:49 AM

KA

“ My great sorrow to lose this friend whom I never met. I adored her writing, her in-depth, detailed explication of all things home and hearth, as well as stunning encapsulations of fashion and celebrity. Her wit and capacity for engaging were unsurpassed, and I shall miss her. I shall miss her. My condolences to her family and near friends, and all the rest of us who loved her thorough her writing.

kara - October 22, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ Absolutely hands down my favorite design blog. Not just visually appealing, but entertaining and educational to read. I was so inspired by her and feel as if I've lost a friend. Prayers for peace for her inner circle and big hugs to dear Nellie.

Dawn Gepfer - October 22, 2023 at 10:13 AM

PK

“ Like so many here and on Instagram I only knew Joni through her incredible blog. Her death comes as a shock— as you are experiencing every moment. I send my deepest condolences to you, Ben and Elizabeth, for your loss. As so many have noted, Joni’s blog stood out for its design and research. I want to add that her work also demonstrated a strong intelligence. Perhaps more affecting was her moral compass. She had a fearlessness in writing her blog, which I admired a lot. Joni was able to see multiple perspectives, pick out trends — describe them, critique them, embrace them — and yet stay true to her own values and vision. Remarkable if you think about it. Her range of analysis was wide: fun and funny chat to profound insight. Her reconstruction of spaces through history was just the best — I was so happy to learn that other people are interested in that sort of thing. Obviously your Joni left a mark on me and I am very sad to think of her being gone. I hope you find ways to get through your grief, one day at a time. I am holding you all in the light.

Paola Kindred, Minneapolis, MN

Paola Kindred - October 20, 2023 at 10:51 PM

KG

“ I Will be your friend for eternity and i will miss your wit, talent and sense of style.



Kevin Graves - October 20, 2023 at 05:14 PM

MC

“ I'm so deeply sorry for your loss. Joni was a beautiful, talented, funny and gifted blog friend for many years. She will be missed. RIP, Joni.

Marie Cunningham - October 20, 2023 at 08:45 AM

AF

“ I have enjoyed your mother's blog for so many years. It was one of those things my mother and I could enjoy together, up until my mother passed away from breast cancer just over ten years ago. Like my mother, Joni had style and grace and a beautiful home. I have shed many tears reading Joni's blog over the years, missing my mom and thinking how much she would have enjoyed different stories Joni wrote, and especially would have loved her political commentary, living in an ever divisive world - both women had such big hearts. I hope they are together somewhere in the cosmos giving each other great decorating advice. I am so so very sorry for your loss. Your wife/mother touched the lives of so many she never even met. Thank you for sharing her with us.

Anna Ferguson - October 19, 2023 at 11:30 PM

LM

“ Dear Ben and Elizabeth - Joni's love for you both was so palpable in every comment and anecdote. I am so deeply sorry for your loss. I hope you find solace in the outpouring of grief and you own private memories. ~

Linda Merrill

Linda Merrill - October 19, 2023 at 09:39 PM

SL

“ Although I never got to meet Joni personally, I felt like I knew her. Her designs were beautiful and her dedication to detail in her blogs was impressive. I poured over every word. In more recent years when Joni addressed a topic, I always thought, “I feel exactly the same!” We have lost a loving light.

Sally Leonard - October 19, 2023 at 09:15 PM

LF

“ My sincerest sympathies. I’ve been a big fan of Joni’s since I lived in Houston and brought a little of her aesthetic along (white linen and seagrass) when I moved back to the Midwest. She answered an email that I randomly sent her with advice and genuine kindness. I will miss her.

Lynn F - October 19, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ Dear Elisabeth, Ben and the rest of you, family and friends,

I am sending my sincere condolences for the loss of your Joni. Without having ever met her, I felt as if she was a good friend. I loved her blog and was amazed at all the research, work she put into her posts. I loved her sense of humor and of course, her sense of style. I had always hoped to meet her face to face because I felt that we would just hit it off. I am so sorry that will never happen. My heart goes out to you all as you go through this time of loss and heartache.

Hugs to you all,

Debbie Clark

Debbie Clark - October 19, 2023 at 08:00 PM

AK

“ Sending my most heartfelt condolences and love to her family. She was a bright light that shone farther than she ever knew. We were all lucky to have had a small piece of her through her blog. She will be missed.

Ana Kemp - October 19, 2023 at 06:57 PM

PF

“ Joni was a wonderful inspiration to the entire blogging community. A dear friend and a truly lovely human. May her memory be a blessing for you.

Patti Friday - October 19, 2023 at 06:48 PM

KR

“ My condolences to Joni's husband and daughter. Over the years we heard so many wonderful stories about you. Joni allowed us to be part of the fun. I spent many hours of reading the detailed posts, full of design and art and all things Joni. Forever grateful for what she gave so freely to us all.
Love from California,
Karen Richardson

Karen Richardson - October 19, 2023 at 06:32 PM

SE

“ Stan Ehrenkranz purchased the Thoughts & Prayers Sympathy Gift Box for the family of Joni Webb.



Stan Ehrenkranz - October 19, 2023 at 06:22 PM

AL

“ I loved her blog so much! She got me hooked on Outlander and I in turn converted every friend I could. I had a little blog back in the day and she was always so generous and sweet. I always felt special when she left me a comment.

Alisa - October 19, 2023 at 06:04 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear this. I always hoped we'd be able to visit each other again. This is such a surprise and heartbreak. Ben and Elisabeth - I am so sorry for your loss -Barbara Hamrick, Costa Mesa, CA

Barbara Hamrick - October 19, 2023 at 05:56 PM

BW

Barbara, I didn't have your # to call. It was unexpected. I was actually in the hospital with a malfunctioning heart. I have Afib. Joni stayed home. Then, I couldn't reach her. I knew something was wrong. They found her with our dog, Nellie, lying in between her legs. I am devastated. I loved her so much. She was my soulmate and best friend. I think her body was just worn down. She had Covid x2, lymphedema on her legs, and kidney issues. But we were fighting it. I think her heart just gave out. She was very talented, loyal, generous and genuine. We hoped to live down here in Galveston for the next 20 years. At least she had one glorious year here. Take care and best wishes. Ben

Benjamin K. Webb - October 20, 2023 at 07:31 PM

MD

“ Dear Elizabeth and Ben, these dark times are made darker...with the loss of such a bright light.. absolutely gutted. Thinking of you both knowing how Joni adored you. Sincerely, forever fan
Melissa Delano Santa Cruz New Mexico USA ❤️🙏❤️

Melissa Delano - October 19, 2023 at 05:37 PM

KP

Ben and Elizabeth I'm am so very sorry you have to feel such great sorrow. Joni was a special online friend through our early years of blogging. I was always amazed at her talent and exquisite style and taste. She was a generous, kind lady that I truly respect. She was so loving and kind to me after my husband passed away and I cherished our conversations on DMs. Ben she adored you and shared that with me. My heart breaks for your family. My prayers of peace and comfort are with you.

Kathysue Brentwood California

Kathysue Perdue - October 19, 2023 at 06:00 PM

VB

Never met Joni in person, but have followed for years. Loved, loved her style! She will be sorely missed by many. I have been very sad to see she is no longer with us. V

Victoria breen - October 20, 2023 at 11:42 AM

PT

I remember this story Joni wrote about going (with another design/decor pal) to see a lecture on Maison Jansen furniture. Before the lecture she hadn't known how to pronounce the "Jansen" and was surprised to learn that night that she'd been pronouncing it wrong. She got such a kick out of it—both the real pronunciation, and her realization she'd been botching it for years. It was so great, how funny she found it all. The kind of thing no other decorating blogger would have shared. It made reading her a delight.

PT - October 20, 2023 at 02:02 PM

EL

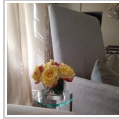
So shocked to read this, always an interesting blog and a lot of research went into this, my condolences

Ellen Lisi - October 20, 2023 at 03:45 PM

JU

This was shocking news to say the least. I looked forward to all of Joni's wonderful posts. She gave me my love of seagrass rugs and white "slips" the great Houston look. She sent me a copy of the magazine where her Houston home was featured. When you and Joni built your new "forever" home I devoured and drooled over those photos for days (still do) Please know you and your daughter and extended family are in my prayers.

Judy - October 20, 2023 at 10:20 PM



So very sad to hear about Joni. Like most others here, I was an avid reader and lover of her blog. Sending my warmest condolences to her family....Joni will be missed!!

Candice Jackson - October 31, 2023 at 02:20 PM

CB

Joni's was the first blog I stumbled on on-so-many years ago. I didn't know what a blog was and had to ask around. Her posts were always classy, beautiful, informative, and funny. She must have been a blessing to live with and I pray he memory is a blessing to her family and friends.

Cynthia Blaylock - October 31, 2023 at 07:06 PM

CA

Hello, as a reader of Joni's blog I was worried for the lack of recent posts. Today after some research I understand the reason and I'm deeply sorry for your family. Even though I didn't know her personally, she was an incredible inspiration which I'll remember fondly.

Carlo - January 09, 2025 at 04:27 AM