

# Susan Soper BIO

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Susan Soper was born in New Jersey but grew up in Atlanta, GA with her two siblings, their father – a salesman – and their mostly stay-at-home mom. While Susan was in college, her mother died; at that time death, dying and grieving were not opening discussed and dealt with. In fact, even the word cancer was not freely used as it is today. Between ongoing loss and working as a journalist sometimes writing about death, Susan developed an awareness and sensitivity to those going through what she had experienced and found a way to share that with others, primarily through the *ObitKit*.

Here are some other facts about Susan Soper's life:

## Education

The Westminster Schools - Atlanta, GA  
St. Mary's Junior College - Raleigh, NC  
Oglethorpe University - Atlanta, GA

## Professional

*Newsday*, Long Island, NY, Writer  
CNN, Atlanta, GA: Writer  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Atlanta, GA: Features Editor/Writing Coach  
*Atlanta INtown*, Atlanta, GA: Executive Editor  
Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, GA: Executive Director/Marketing, Communications  
*ObitKit*: Founder/Author

## Personal

Married: William W. "Bo" Holland  
Siblings: Sister in Powhatan, VA; brother in Bluffton, SC  
Favorite books over time: *Lonesome Dove*, *Ahab's Wife*, *Cutting for Stone*  
Civic: Oglethorpe University Board of Trustees; Girl Scout Troop Leader; American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors; President, Peachtree Heights Neighborhood Association; Women of MOCA; Volunteer, Trees Atlanta and Atlanta Botanical Garden

## Touched by early loss

1955: Favorite uncle dies suddenly  
1959: Father of close friend dies when the girls were 12  
1968: Suzanne Moeller Soper, 45, mother of the author, dies from cancer  
1974: As a young reporter for *Newsday*, writes obituaries for a short time  
1983: Paternal grandmother dies at age 81  
1996: Father's sudden death connects author to the world of very personal obituaries  
2004: Author buys the domain name *ObitKit.com*  
2008: *ObitKit* is trademarked, registered and launched  
2009: *ObitKit* is sold on the web site and via *Bas Bleu*, a book mail order company  
2010: Author launches blog on [www.legacy.com](http://www.legacy.com).  
2011: *ObitKit's* new web site is launched, just author begins offering workshops and seminars on how to celebrate your life

## Favorite Trips

TransAtlantic: on the QEII  
Hikes: Cinque Terra, Italy; the Grand Canyon; Machu Picchu; Patagonia; Lake Tahoe  
New York City, again and again  
Safari to Botswana  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

## Hobbies

Reading, tennis, gardening, travel, people (dead and alive)

Contact Susan: [susan@obitkit.com](mailto:susan@obitkit.com)