



Sad News

Lisa Lin Fenton – January 31, 2026

Lisa Lin Fenton

Lisa Lin Fenton, 61, passed away suddenly on January 31, 2026, due to cardiac arrest at LeConte Medical Center in Sevierville, Tennessee.

Born on November 6, 1964, in Port Huron, Michigan, Lisa was the daughter of Joan (Bates) Hopkins and the late William J. Fenton, and the stepdaughter of the late Paul F. Hopkins.

A gifted entertainer, Lisa spent seven years touring the United States, Canada, and Japan as a principal skater and teeterboard acrobat with Ice Capades alongside her siblings. During her travels, she completed her education through the American Correspondence School of Chicago.

Lisa later brought her talents to Walt Disney World in Florida before settling in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. For the last

twenty years, she was a fixture in the local theater community, working in ticket sales for several prominent dinner theaters and venues. Known for her radiant smile and magnetic personality, she was frequently recognized as a top sales professional.

She is survived by her mother, Joan Hopkins; her sister, Robin Fenton; her brother's, Steve, Jack, and Todd Fenton, all of Michigan, and her step-brother, Ian Adams of Boulder City, Nevada, relatives in the Clare Area.

She is also survived by her children, Crystal (Vara) Yee and Anthony Vara of Nevada, and Matthew Fenton of Kentucky; three grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Elizabeth, and Presley; and close friends Larry Windsor and Judy Page of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Lisa was preceded in



death by her father, William J. Fenton; her stepfather, Paul F. Hopkins, and her grandparents, Orville and Lila Bates of Clare, Michigan, and Alice Fenton of Port Huron, Michigan.

A family memorial service was held at the Congregational Church in Clare, Michigan, on May 17, 2026, at 2:00 PM. Lisa will be laid to rest in the family plot at Cherry Grove Cemetery.

Our Alumni in the News

Torvill and Dean receive honours at Windsor Castle

2 June 2026 -Steven McIntoshEntertainment reporter

We referred to Chris & Jane as "Skating Royalty" on the Champions On Ice Tour.

Now they truly are. Congratulations Jayne & Chris!



Ice dancers Dame Jayne and Sir Christopher took home the Olympic gold at the 1984 Winter Games for their Bolero performance.

The pair later became the faces of ITV celebrity competition show Dancing On Ice.

After finding out about the honour, Dame Jayne, 68, said the timing seemed "perfect" after the two danced on the ice for the final time last year.

She said: "We had such a great time, we were so happy with the tour and the fact that we got through it.

"It was a big thing for us to mark our career before retirement, and then receiving this award at the end of the year, it's just finished everything. It's perfect."

Dame Jayne Torvill has also been a celebrity ambassador for a children's hospice in the South East for more than 20 years, while Sir Christopher Dean has served as a head coach and mentor for the British Ice Skating Academy of Dance.

Dame Jayne said the timing of the knight and damehood was "perfect" after the pair retired from the ice.

Video of the Month

Enjoy Bob Turk's choreography. He used some of these designs and put them in Ice Capades.

Enjoy and have a good day going down memory lane



<https://youtu.be/j-24JZw8UzQ?si=3LMdCRvNixLpyQ2X>

1996 – Lido de Paris – Bravissimo

Memories

Remembering our Shirley Costello



A Little History about Aja Zanova

World & European Figure Skating Champion Alena Vrzáňová was born on this day in 1931.

Vrzáňová was the first Czech skater to win a World title in any discipline.



How did Alena Vrzáňová's career unfold?

Alena Vrzáňová's figure skating career was nothing short of phenomenal. Born on May 16, 1931, in Prague, Czechoslovakia, she began sports at age three with skiing before transitioning to figure skating. Here's a brief overview of her career:

- **Early Success:** Vrzáňová became the Czechoslovak junior national champion in 1946 and later trained in Richmond, London under Arnold Gerschwiler.
- **International Breakthrough:** She won the Czechoslovak national championships in 1947 and placed 7th at the World Figure Skating Championships. Vrzáňová represented Czechoslovakia at the 1948 Winter Olympics, finishing 5th.
- **World Champion:** In 1949, Vrzáňová won her first World title in Paris, notable for being the first woman to land a double Lutz jump in competition. She repeated this feat in 1950, becoming a two-time World Champion.
- **European Champion:** Vrzáňová won the 1950 European Championships in Oslo, solidifying her position as a top figure skater.
- **Defection and Later Career:** After defecting from Czechoslovakia during the 1950 World Championships, Vrzáňová joined the Ice Follies and later the Ice Capades, performing under the name "Aja Zanova". She also worked as a director at New York City's Wollman Rink.

Some of her notable achievements include:

- **Awards:**
 - World Figure Skating Hall of Fame inductee (2009)
 - Sports Legend of the Czech Republic (2009)
 - Gratias Agit Awards (2012) for promoting the good name of the Czech Republic abroad
- **Competitive Highlights:**
 - 2-time World Champion (1949, 1950)
 - European Champion (1950)
 - 5th place at the 1948 Winter Olympics

Who remembers skating at the Pacific Coliseum in Vancouver?

Pacific Coliseum – Jan. 8, 1968



Upcoming Events



CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE

Ice Theatre of New York, Inc[®]

presents

<https://www.icetheatre.org/>

Ticket and information at [icetheatre.org/tickets](https://www.icetheatre.org/tickets)



The website, www.icecapadestheblade.com has been revamped and more information has been added. If you have something to add, please send them.

Look here for **2025 Ice Capades Reunion** information, including reunion pictures

Cast, Precision & Production Pictures – Relive some memories.

Past reunion Pictures – Check them out for some you may have missed.

Rosters – Looking for someone or remembering who you skated with in the show?

Video links – have been collecting skating 'You Tube' links from the early years.

Program Covers – we had the most beautiful covers

Past Issues of The Blade – just in case you missed an issue

Past Reunion Pictures – relive the times you attended the reunions

In Memorium – remembering those who have left us too soon

Check it out!

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