

Margaret Field-Beard - August 23rd, 2023



In 1942 Margaret competed in Pacific Coast Junior Champions in Solos, Pairs, and Fours. She placed in the top three in all categories. She also competed in the Senior National Division in Solos, Pairs, and Dance.

Margaret originally signed a contract with Ice Folies in 1946. Ice Folies and Ice Cycles were owned, at that time by John H. Harris and partners. John Harris

bought out Ice Cycles along with Margaret's contract. John Harris turned Ice Cycles into Ice Capades International. Margaret skated with **Ice Capades from 1947-1957**. She did pairs with Bud McNulty and Nadine Schramm, as well as a solo her first three years. She performed all the pantomime and musical productions with Jimmy Lawrence, her husband of 13 years. These productions would be up to a half an hour long. She portrayed, "Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, Snow White, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Student Prince, Toyshop, and Wish You Were Here," which were many of the iconic productions in her time with Ice Capades International. Whatever Donna Atwood did in the other Ice Capades company, she did. She spent 13 years with Ice Capades. A couple of times she skated with Bobby Specht at the Convention Hall in Atlantic City when Donna Atwood didn't want to skate. She and Jimmy left Ice Capades in 1957 and took a year off. They were later contacted by Morris Chalfen, who owned Holiday on Ice to come back and perform. They came back for one year.

She had two children, Jamie and Kathy, with Jimmy Lawrence.

She later married Marshall Beard, who had skated with the legendary Sonja Henie. When Jamie and Kathy grew a little taller, they went out together as a family act with Holiday on Ice in 1967. Morris Chalfen contacted Margaret and Marshall and asked if they would do a Family Act which is when "The Beard Family" was first formed. Jamie and Kathy did a pair and Kathy did a solo as well.

While with Holiday on Ice, they traveled to South America and did shows in Argentina and Rio de Janeiro. They later rejoined Ice Capades West Company in 1969 to 1971 and performed their family act, Jamie and Kathy did their pair, and Kathy did her solo for two more years.

One of Margaret's fondest memories is performing for Jordan's King Abdullah I in London. He came to the show three times and sat in the front row. She said it was the best show he had ever seen. Margaret did many milk and Wonder Bread ads. All of this was included in her contract. Today, Margaret lives in El Dorado Hills, California, with her daughter, who enjoyed a six-year career with Ice Capades, and son-in-law. She still walks every day. That's what keeps her going.

<https://obituaries.neptune-society.com/obituaries/sacramento-ca/margaret-beard-11420529>