

Personal Information

- Born on December 21, 1947
- Daughter of a truck driver and a cafeteria cook and, later, a secretary
- Grew up in Santa Clara County, California
- First in her family to go to college
- Married to John Marshall Collins
- Mother of two adult children
- Grandmother of three

Education

- K-12 public schools
- B.A., Political Science, Stanford University, 1970
- J.D., cum laude, University of Santa Clara School of Law, 1975

Professional Career

- Served as staff member for her predecessor, Congressman Don Edwards, 1970-1978
- Practiced immigration law as a partner in the firm of Webber & Lofgren, 1978-1980
- Elected to the San Jose Evergreen Community College Board, 1979
- First Executive Director of San Jose nonprofit Community Housing Developers, 1979
- Taught immigration law at University of Santa Clara School of Law, 1977-1980
- Elected as part of the first female-majority on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors where she served 1981-1994

U.S. Congress

- Elected in 1994 as only freshman Democrat from west of the Rocky Mountains
- First woman to represent areas of the South Bay and Central Coast in Congress
- Only Member of Congress to be involved in the four modern impeachment proceedings
- First woman in U.S. history to address the Senate as an Impeachment Manager
- Former Chair of the Committee on House Administration, House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (now named the House Ethics Committee), and House Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship
- Former Member of the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol and the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress
- Serves as Ranking Member of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
- Serves as Senior Member of the House Judiciary Committee
- Serves as Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation

