



CHAPPELLET

Molly Chappellet
Founder, Chairman Emeritus and Director of Aesthetics

A gifted designer, landscape gardener, author, photographer, cook and entertainer, Molly Chappellet co-founded Chappellet with her husband, Donn, in 1967. Their shared conviction that there was a simpler, more down-to-earth way to earn a living and rear their children, coupled with a desire to produce world-class wines, led them to their idyllic home amidst the vineyards of Pritchard Hill.

Growing up in Beverly Hills, Molly studied art at the Chouinard School of Art, UCLA and Scripps College. When she moved to Pritchard Hill, she found her formal training challenged by bigger canvases and three-dimensional opportunities. With acres of land to mold and clients to entertain, she transformed her garden and Chappellet's many events into her own unique artistic palette. Her work gently sculpting the land and painting with flowers, trees and shrubs has earned Molly's spectacular garden acclaim as one of the most beautiful gardens in the country. As an entertainer, she has been hostess to such guests as Julia Child, James Beard, Danny Kaye, Dinah Shore, Clint Eastwood, Martha Stewart, Beverly Sills and Craig Claiborne.

Molly is the author of five books: *A Vineyard Garden*, the James Beard Award-winning book that discusses her ideas from the earth for entertaining, gardening and life; *The Romance of California Vineyards*, authored with daughter Carissa; *Gardens of the Wine Country*, co-authored with Richard Tracy, that takes you on an exclusive tour of the Napa Valley's most spectacular gardens; *Into The Earth: A Wine Cave Renaissance*, brilliantly photographed by co-author Daniel D'Agostini; and *Jack Lenore Larsen's LongHouse*, a book celebrating Larsen's personal and artistic philosophies and his sculptural gardens.

When she is not tending her garden on Pritchard Hill, Molly speaks publicly about design and gardening, and hosts winemaker dinners both at home and around the country. Renowned for her inspired vision of gardening, entertaining and aesthetics, Molly has been a welcome guest on "The Regis and Kathy Lee Show," "The Home Show" and "Martha Stewart Living." She has also written numerous articles for national magazines and daily newspapers.

To further maintain her connection with the vines, Molly walks in the vineyards that surround her home almost every morning, stopping often to inspect the plants, or to talk with the vineyard team who have become like a second family. In addition to her continued work guiding the aesthetic spirit of Chappellet, she also takes great joy in sharing her garden with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Together, they celebrate ordinary occurrences: sunlight filtering through the trees, artichokes changing from vegetables to flowers, or simply playing in a meadow. As vintners and parents, Molly and her late husband Donn, who passed away in 2016, accomplished what they set out to do—to make exceptional wines, and live a simpler life. Today, Molly takes pleasure in watching the family's second and third generations embrace their own relationships with Pritchard Hill. "Life here," says Molly, "has made me realize how essential it is in this technologically driven age to reestablish our connection with the earth and to embrace some part of its harmony and rhythm in our daily lives."