

NOTABLE MISSOURIANS AND TIGERS COLLECTION

**Carolyn Roehm (BFA, Washington University, '73)
Fashion and Floral Designer, Taste Maker, Decorator, Author**



The only child of a Missouri school principal, Carolyne Jane Smith grew up in Kirksville, Missouri before attending Washington University in St. Louis. After graduation, Ms. Smith moved to New York City to work at Kellwood Company, a women's clothing manufacturer. She began her high fashion career working for Oscar de la Renta as an assistant and model before becoming an assistant designer. Upon her marriage to Henry Kravis in 1985, she launched her own fashion house, *Carolyn Roehm Inc.*, and became one of America's trendsetters in fashion and elegance, a leading profile of the "Nouvelle Society" in Manhattan. During this time, she was elected President of the Council of Fashion Designers of America. In 1987, shoe designer Manolo Blahnik designed and named his most iconic shoe design - the *Carolyn* sling-back - in her honor. Her high-end clothing line was discontinued in 1991, after which Mrs. Roehm shifted her focus to floral design, decorating and entertaining. Mrs. Roehm has authored at least ten books on topics such as interior decorating, floral arranging, and party planning.

ARTIFACT: Navy wool dress by Carolyne Roehm (Early 1990s) Gifts of B. Bloch
Portrait Image: Carolyne Roehm, Facebook