



Rose Cefkin

October 2, 1921 - October 8, 2014

Rose Cefkin, 93, died peacefully on October 8, 2014. Born October 2, 1921 in New York City, Rose was the third of four girls born to Benjamin Mackanick and Bella Pitkowsky. Her oldest sister Lillian died as a girl but Rose and her sisters Frieda (Wasserman) and Miriam (Toback) remained the most loving of sisters throughout their lives.

Known both for her intelligence and beauty, Rose graduated from Morris High School in the Bronx in 1937, entering Hunter College at the age of 16. She graduated in February 1941 with a B.A. in Chemistry and minor in Physics. She worked for the U.S. Army Signal Corps Lab as a Mathematician from 1941 to 1945, all during World War II. She then started a career in technical and scientific editing with Interscience Publishers and worked on the first ten volumes of the "Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology." She continued to edit on a freelance basis while raising her family and then worked for the City of Fort Collins (1973-1980) followed by the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, U.S. Department of Agriculture (1981-1991) as the Assistant Editor for the Publications Section.

She married J. Leo Cefkin in 1949 (divorced 1975) and together they had four children. They moved to Fort Collins in 1956. She made friends wherever she went, and was active in the community, including the League of Women Voters and Congregation Har Shalom. An avid cookbook and recipe collector, Rose never threw out a newspaper without reading each page thoroughly and was known for playing fierce games of Scrabble and bridge. An adventurer and lover of trying different foods, she traveled to Africa, Asia, and Europe. She loved her family above all.

She is survived by her children Judith Cefkin and her husband Paul Boyd (of Arlington, VA), Barbara and Perry Springer (of Fort Collins), Jonathan and Eed Cefkin (of Denver), and Melissa Cefkin and Mazyar Lotfalian (of San Jose, CA), her grandchildren Audrey and Matt Salberg, Allison Springer, Tarika Cefkin, Brittany Springer, and Benjamin Cefkin, and two great grand children, Owen and Payton Salberg.

A private family gathering was held. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in her name to Pathways Hospice or charitable organizations supporting social welfare or disease research and treatment.

Comments



“ Rose was a neighbor and part of my childhood on Sheely Drive. My thoughts and prayers are with her family.

Kacy Thompson
Lund, Sweden

Kacy Thompson - January 23, 2015 at 02:40 PM



“ John and I send our heartfelt condolence to you, Barbara, and the rest of your family. We always knew Rose as a warm and loving woman. She will be sorely missed. John says he will miss seeing her in the office.

John and Nancy Hanck

Nancy Hanck - October 20, 2014 at 09:37 PM



“ Barbara Springer is following this tribute.

Barbara Springer - October 18, 2014 at 07:45 AM



“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



Rose's Family - October 16, 2014 at 12:15 PM



“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



Rose's Family - October 16, 2014 at 12:07 PM



“ I am so glad I got a chance to visit with Rose last November. My condolences to all her loving family. Chloe Gaalswyk

Chloe Gaalswyk - October 14, 2014 at 04:21 PM



“ Our condolences, Barbara, to you and your family. Neil and I met Rose at Har Shalom, when it was just becoming a real Jewish presence in Ft. Collins, and we felt blessed to have as part of our community a woman of such intelligence, strength, curiosity, accomplishment and feistiness. Plus she contributed fine recipes to our cookbook. We sympathize with your loss and hope that her memory continues.
Barbara Sherrod

Barbara Sherrod - October 13, 2014 at 06:41 PM



“ We lit a candle for your mom to represent a life well lived a love that never dies. We are so very sorry for the loss of your mother. It matters not the age or the circumstances; it is so difficult to not have the one's we love physically with us. Life has changed not ended. We offer our prayers, comforting thoughts and heartfelt sympathy during this most difficult time.
Hugs and Love,
Monica Esposito and Steven Seffinger

Monica & Steve Seffinger - October 13, 2014 at 12:47 PM



“ Monica & Steve Seffinger lit a candle in memory of Rose Cefkin



Monica & Steve Seffinger - October 13, 2014 at 12:42 PM



“ 8 files added to the album New Album Name



Rose Cefkin's Children - October 13, 2014 at 11:24 AM



“ Judy, Barbara, Jon and Melissa
With great memories of our neighborhood on Sheely Drive. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Hugs!
Kacy Thompson

Kacy Thompson - October 12, 2014 at 10:26 PM



“ To the Cefkin family, I knew Rose as a mutual member of Congregation Har Shalom. As I was raising my young daughters and mourning the early loss of my husband years ago, Rose often offered her love and support. She knew my husband Fred and was so kind each time I saw her. I send my heartfelt condolences to you for this most impactful loss. She was a strong, smart, caring woman in this life. I'll miss knowing she's around. All my best, Pamela Sachs

pamela Sachs - October 12, 2014 at 09:19 AM



“ Dear Judy, Jon, Barb and Missy, We were so sorry to hear of Rose's passing. She was so warm and welcoming to all us folk dancers back when we were young. Our love to you. Karen and Terl

Karen Robinson - October 10, 2014 at 11:14 PM



“ Judy, Jon, Barbara, Missy: My condolences at the passing of your Mom. What an amazing woman...and my Mom's best friend for so many years. Rose was like a second mother to Jody and me back in those early Juniper Lane days. May you find joy and comfort in your memories of her.

David Heitman - October 10, 2014 at 01:43 PM



“ 14 files added to the album New Album Name



Melissa, Judith, Barbara and Jonathan - October 10, 2014 at 12:47 PM



“ Chrissy lit a candle in memory of Rose Cefkin



Chrissy - October 09, 2014 at 05:50 PM