



Rosella Stern

January 9, 1914 - July 28, 2011

Rosella Taitch Stern passed away in her sleep on the morning of July 28, 2011. She was born in Spokane, WA, on January 9, 1914. Rosella was a star of her high school track team. After graduating, she moved to Chicago in the midst of the Great Depression and learned to drink black coffee because cream cost an extra penny. Rosella married George Stern in 1938. During their 40 years of marriage, Rosella and George lived in Evanston, IL, where they raised two daughters, Frances and Elizabeth. Later, rather than tend an empty nest, Rosella went to work as a receptionist at the Harbor Lights Clinic of the Salvation Army in Chicago. She was fascinated by the workings of the human mind, which helped her sympathize with the clients who were trying to overcome alcohol dependence. In 1997, she joined her daughter Fran in Fort Collins, CO, where she made many new friends. She is remembered fondly for her strong spirit, her great sense of humor, and her acute interest in the world around her. Over the years, she hosted many fabulous dinner parties for family and friends. She enjoyed travels to many parts of the world, and her outgoing personality and ready smile started conversations with total strangers who quickly became new friends. She is survived by her two daughters Fran (Gerry) Johnson and Liz (Vince) Brumfiel, three grandchildren Kurt (Tara) Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson (Shad Todd), Geoff Brumfiel and his fiancée Natasha Gilbert, and four great grandchildren Mia and Mattias Johnson and Elias and Solomon Todd. Her husband George preceded her in death on July 2, 1977. A celebration of life will be held in Evanston at a later

date. Rosella's family requests that any contributions be sent to the Harbor Light Center, 1515 West Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60607-2407

Tribute Wall



“ *Rosella Stern*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *We were frequent guests at the house and later at the apartment. I remember many wonderful meals followed by great conversation. Aunt Rosella's dinner parties ranked with the best.*

She had a passion for politics and social improvement which she didn't just preach but put into effect. How many people would voluntarily work for years with alcoholics as she did? Most would quit in disgust. Rosella never romanticized the clients but she saw the good in them and she kept at her work.

The world is poorer by a lot of dinner parties and the downtrodden have lost a friend.

Jim Stern - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sorry about Rosella Stern dying. I live in Seattle, Washington.*

Dennis Richman - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *I was lucky to have spent so much time with my grandmother. I have fond memories of walking with her and my sister to the five and dime in Evanston and picking out toys to play with in her apartment. My lifelong love of the Cubs, which on the surface should be frustrating, is so passionate because it was shared with her. I will miss her terribly.*

Kurt Johnson - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Dear Fran & Liz,
Please accept my deepest condolences on
the death of your beloved Mother. She was a wonderful woman.
Love
Mary

Mary Lyons - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Rosella was always a special lady. She liked people and they liked
her. Time spent with her was a pleasure, even when we didn't
agree.
Your memories will always be good.
Rita & Walt

Rita Kuemmerlin - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ A long life well lived

Marilyn Heller - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Please accept our sympathies. I will remember Ro with great
fondness.

Kevin Karjala - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Dear Fran, Gerry and all of your family,
What a lively lady Rosella was! We all enjoyed her during her years in Ft. Collins.
I especially remember her graciousness in welcoming my grandson, Nick, when he performed a Vivaldi composition on his violin for the nursing home audience.
He was 13 and not overly poised but she was so appreciative and encouraging that she put him immediately at ease.
Her warmth and welcoming nature surely live on in the family. That's a wonderful legacy.

Pat and Dick Walsh - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Rosella was a model for us all! She had such an adventuresome spirit and love for life. Her sense of humor was contagious, her directness and questioning mind never failed to make me smile. She loved travel, good books and good food. And she seemed to make friends where ever she went. We were lucky to know her and I shall always appreciate her friendship and remember her with love.

Dede Hestand - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ rest in peace Rosella

Ronald Taitch - July 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM