



ARLENE JANET STERN

July 3, 1942 - February 24, 2018

Arlene Stern, 75, died Saturday, February 24th, at Village Shalom. Her cousins Nancy Hipsh Wolff, Harlene Hipsh and staff from Village Shalom were by her side. A graveside service will be held at 2:00pm Monday, February 26, 2018 at Sheffield Cemetery. Donations in her memory can be sent to Village Shalom or a charity of one's choice.

Arlene was born in Canada and diagnosed with cerebral palsy. In 1967, at age 25, Arlene's mother passed away. Sensing she had a lot of time on her hands, Arlene's father encouraged her to do something with her mind. Arlene decided to start collecting photographs of movie stars. It was through local TV stations that she was able to collect most of the photographs of local TV personalities, movie stars and politicians that were popular during the years she assembled her collection of over 20 albums.

Next, Arlene started a Wake-Up Service, which she ran for many years. She would call people from her bed in the morning and wake them for work. After moving to Village Shalom, Arlene met and studied art under the direction of Sherri Jacobs. Sherri taught Arlene how to paint by putting a paintbrush in her mouth. Arlene painted pictures and greeting cards. Her work was featured in many art shows and hangs in many homes. Because she could not write, Arlene simply remembered - every name, every birthday, every anniversary. She loved Bingo. Her birthday parties were legendary. She was a great judge of character, had a great sense of humor and spoke bluntly. She never walked but she did not sit around. She was an inspiration and example.

From the time Arlene's father died in 1975, she lived in nursing homes. She was at one home for a short period and then moved to the Shalom Geriatric on Holmes until they closed. Arlene was proud to be in the first group of residents to move from Shalom Geriatric into the Weinberg Health Center at Village Shalom in 2000. She lived there for the rest of her life.

Many people were amazed that Arlene was 75 on her last birthday. She lived on love - the love of her cousins, including Vicki and Alan Bronfman, and her many, many friends and

the staff at Village Shalom. Don Cohen was her loyal doctor and provided her with loving care and encouragement all these years. Many people who walk through the main entrance at Village Shalom will miss seeing Arlene in her wheelchair facing the front door.

Cemetery

Sheffield Cemetery

6200 Wilson Road
Kansas City, MO,

Events

FEB **Graveside** 02:00PM

26

Sheffield Cemetery
6200 Wilson Road, Kansas City, MO, US

Comments



“ Arlene - what an inspiration! We would always see her at the Tu B'Shevat Seder at Village Shalom. We missed her there this year and we will miss her each year from now on. Our deepest sympathies, Sheila and Ken Sonnenschein

Sheila - March 20, 2018 at 12:27 PM



“ I remember when my children were st the HBHA and Arlene was Yudells pen pal. They bonded and were friends. She always would inquire about him for years after he left town she always had a sparkle in her eyes

Pamela Reiz - February 27, 2018 at 12:18 PM



“ Bobbie Bograd lit a candle in memory of ARLENE JANET STERN



Bobbie Bograd - February 26, 2018 at 10:24 PM



“ I first met Arlene and her parents, Al and Molly Stern, at a Shiva call that my mother, Frances Bronfman, and I attended at their home for Molly's sister. The next day, my mother had several calls from Vicki Miller's relatives who wanted me to call and meet Vicki. Several weeks later we met in July, got engaged October 1 and married that year November 15, 1964! We asked Arlene to be in our wedding party.....she was in charge of our Guest Book. She made sure that everyone signed that book...she followed them in her wheel chair until they did! We moved to Florida in 1992 and Nancy Hipsh Wolff and her family took over being there and caring for Arlene in such a kind and beautiful manner. Arlene was very funny and a jokester.....she called Alan her boy friend and told me she was going to take Alan away from me! We will miss her and love her forever.....she will never be forgotten. Alan and Vicki Bronfman

Alan and Vicki Bronfman - February 26, 2018 at 03:26 PM



“ My condolences. Arlene was always so cheerful and sweet to me and my Mom! I'll never forget visiting her every week with my dog when she lived in a care facility near Holmes. It always made her happy. I will miss her.



Ala Mandelbaum-Fries - February 26, 2018 at 03:11 PM



“ I have very fond memories of visiting my cousin, Arlene and her father, Al Stern at their apartment on the plaza when I was in elementary school. I remember kissing her goodbye after every visit that my mother and I made. I also remember when she had a wake up service and began calling me to get me up for school and later my summer job. “Wake up, sleepy head” is how she began each such call. And finally, I remember the many visits I made to Village Shalom as an adult, the most recent of which was this past September. I left her with a kiss goodbye as always. I will do miss being able to make another visit the next time I get to KC. She was the picture of inspiration to me and many others. Goodbye, Arlene. May you Rest In Peace.

Darrin Bronfman - February 25, 2018 at 09:03 PM



“ Arlene was as remarkable as she is described in her obituary. I spent time with Arlene for many years while she was living at Shalom Geriatric....she was clever and an entrepreneur...family, friends and Staff were loving and invested in her quality of life.

RIP Arlene...Heaven is lucky to welcome you
Salli Katz

Salli Katz - February 25, 2018 at 07:53 PM



“ Arlene was family, via Earl Miller, my father's side of my family. As a child I new Arlene when I and my family lived in Manhattan, Kansas growing up. I was scared of her because I thought as a child "whatever she had would rub off on me", which came true. Later, after things were explained, we were great friends. She had a wonderful sense of humor, boundless energy, creative and an unbelievable memory. She never let her physical disabilities get in her way. She was partially the reason I work in the medical field, not wanting to be scared of helping others. I will sorely miss Arlene and her laugh.

Carol F. Miller - February 25, 2018 at 04:27 PM



“ Always surprising and spirited, Arlene was a uniquely marvelous human being - who in spite of her seemingly insurmountable handicap- personified a stunning, entrepreneurial, “can-do” spirit . Just thinking of her organizational skills, her artistic and business undertakings - has greatly impressed more than a few of us who were lucky enough to know her - AND more than a few television and news reporters. Arlene always asked about family - and she had an encyclopedic memory about their activities and achievements. There will be many who will miss this marvelous woman, but when Arlene gets to heaven, she'll get things organized up there - you'd better believe. God bless the memory of Arlene Stern - there is no way this woman could ever be forgotten!
Much love from Karen Herman

Karen M Herman - February 25, 2018 at 03:09 PM



“ I had known Arlene since we were children, as her mother was one of my mother (Frances Bronfman) girlhood friends. remember Arlene when she went to Delano school. She was on crutches then, and lively and full of spirit. I was one of her first customers of her wake-up service that she started when she was afraid of losing her disability benefits. I really admired her spirit, and was amazed at how she could find ways to utilize her main talent-- that of talking. She was always so cheerful and positive. She was such a good example that encouraged my children to visit her often, in hopes they some of it would rub off on them. God bless her memory as a truly beautiful person.
Much love from Anne Bronfman Mandelbaum

Anne Bronfman Mandelbaum - February 26, 2018 at 05:16 PM



“ Nancy, I'm so sorry for your loss. I know that Arlene holds a special place in your heart. I hope find memories of her will ease you through your grief.
Vicky Mayer

vicky mayer - February 25, 2018 at 02:57 PM



“ Dear Family,
We are so sorrowed to learn of Arlene's passing. We visited with her often while visiting our family at Village Shalom. I purchased two of her drawings which always amazed me, as she drew with a pencil or brush in her mouth. She was an inspiration to all. May her memory be for a blessing always.
Joyce and Stan Zeldin

Joyce - February 25, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ Dearest Nancy,
Arlene was such an inspiration and whenever I went to the Village, she always greeted me with a smile. Nancy, you were truly her link to family and what a devoted person you were. Thinking of you and sending love.
Marlene Fishman

Marlene Fishman - February 25, 2018 at 01:19 PM



“ Yes I have fond memories of being greeted by Arlene when ever I was at village Shalom. May her memory be for a blessing. Esther M

Esther Sukiennik Megerman - February 25, 2018 at 01:07 PM



“ We are always saddened to read the post from Louis' and learn of the death of a friend, colleague or someone we only knew from a distance. The notice today about Arlene's passing fills us with deep sadness. It will not be the same to walk into Village Shalom and not see Arlene at the door. A greeting from her and brief response to our "hello how are you today" was an inspiration to all of us who accommodate less challenging difficulties. Her memory truly will be as a blessing for all.

Felicia and Seymour Weiner - February 25, 2018 at 12:58 PM



“ Arlene was an inspiration to everyone. Her courage and determination are legendary. We will miss her smiling face but every time we will pass the front door we will remember the Village Shalom greeter.
Sandi and Ken Lerner

sandi lerner - February 25, 2018 at 12:19 PM



“ I've just read about Arlene's life. I didn't know her but I wish I had. - Donna Brown, Kansas City

Donna Brown - February 25, 2018 at 12:18 PM



“ I am very inspired by her life! As I face my own hurdles, I will remember her courage. I wish I had known her. Sharon Cohen, Leawood

sharon cohen - February 25, 2018 at 01:43 PM