Eulogy for Goldy Dora Estrin (nee Hurtig) 1922-2010

Written and presented at the funeral by Goldy's granddaughter Ashley Sarah Estrin

Bubby was a wonderful human being, and a wonderful grandmother.

She always remembered the special occasions, achievements and birthdays in the lives of all of her grandchildren, her children, and her friends.

Goldy and her husband Hymie were special people who always did many mitzvahs quietly for people. Hy and Goldy never expected anything back in return for the all of good deeds that they did. They did however find gratification from the happiness and success of others around them. This is something that I will carry forward.

To know Babee was to love her. There were always surprises. And she never forgot anyone! Even I remember this. I remember going to Babees house and always hearing her on the phone talking to her dear friends, and relatives, scattered all over the world.

She had a lot of friends whom she loved and cared about deeply. Her dining room table was always covered in cards, and flowers on birthdays, holidays, and special occasions, and you could expect that there was always a thank you call coming from Goldy.

I can remember the half dozen suitcases full of Macadamia nuts, chocolates, dresses, jewelry and other gifts that she brought back from her shopping sprees in Hawaii. We all got to enjoy these surprises every spring, just in time for Passover.

Holidays and Shabbat dinners were always outstanding and she always cooked for huge amounts of family and friends.

Our grandmother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease about 11 years ago but maintained most of her personality, including her warm, beautiful smile that always lit up the room. When asked how she is today, she would always answer, "I'm fine dear, how are you?" and would never complain to us, even if she was having a bad day.

She was always happy to have visitors, no matter who you were, even if she couldn't remember your name that day. She was always happy to sit and smile at you, and hold your hand. She was very dignified and strong, despite her memory loss. Her strength is truly inspirational.

My father Bernie spent time with Babee almost daily for many years. He and my mom Gail were always there for her. We never wanted her to feel alone.

Babee also had several wonderful companions and caregivers over the years. Thank you to Raisa and Jean and Ella and Mary - and the others who helped Goldy maintain her ability to enjoy everyday life and remain in our lives all these years.

Thanks to Dr. Henderson and to Jan Cooper at Capital Care Lynwood - and all the staff there who loved and looked after Goldy in her final years.

I find strength in knowing that Goldy and Hymie are together now, watching the sunrise and sunsets over Hawaii, their favorite place. May we always remember Goldy Estrin as the compassionate, strong willed, caring woman that she is.