

Handwritten notes at the top of the page: "10318!", "Eupson, MP", "27/11", "Green Rose", "37 Olga", and a circled "1".

EULOGY - OLGA ROLLINGER - FEBRUARY 20, 1992

Handwritten note: "correction 2 made"

Today was meant to be a day of celebration for the family of Olga Rollinger. This day would have marked her 87th. birthday. Instead we gather together this day to mourn for her and to comfort her family. To us in the mortal world, birth and death are 2 extremes; joy and sorrow - beginning and end. But in the world of faith they mark a continuum in our journey to a world of the spirit - to salvation under the wings of the Holy One.

Our sages teach that Moses, himself died on HIS birthday. They tell us that his death on the date of his birth was a sign of holiness. Perhaps they meant that there is a sense of completion in the coincidence. Each year was lived fully - completely - without waste, and death ~~crowded on~~ rounded off the last year of life.

Today on the birthday of Olga Rollinger and on the day of her burial, we gather - not only to mourn for her - but to celebrate her life. A life lived fully even to the very end.

Olga was a whole person. Getting to know her as I did in her 80's, and during her long illness that had her hospitalized for a lengthy period of time, I couldn't help but be struck by her physical beauty even under those trying conditions. She was a handsome woman - but even more important was her inner beauty. Sari & I would come to visit her, hoping to bring her good cheer - and always she would be solicitous of us - "How are your two lovely children?" she would ask. "Are you enjoying the Congregation"?

She was a woman ^{who} ~~of~~ personified class - a woman who was in every sense a lady. She had only to open her mouth and one would recognize ^{that here is a} ~~a~~ woman of dignity ~~and class~~. She was, as Larry describes her, beautiful within and without. PAUSE

Woman

Family was ~~to~~ most important in her life
She was a caring loving mother to her children.

^{you called}
Serena ~~calls~~ her the "wisest most wonderfully gentle human being I've ever met. The greatest gift she even gave me was to be so fortunate as to have her for a mother".

She was a woman who was grateful for her life and all of it's blessings She felt fulfilled as a mother - and she found meaning in her 3 devoted children who loved her so much. ⁱⁿ @ Larry Roseann + Serena

SERENA & LARRY BOTH SPEAK FONDLY OF A TRANSFERENCE SHE WAS ABLE TO MAKE FROM MOTHER OF ~~CONFIDENT~~ ^{to confident} AND FRIEND AS THEY REACHED MATURITY.

SERENA RECALLS THE TRIPS THEY WOULD TAKE TOGETHER - TO San Francisco OR elsewhere SOMETIMES WITH, SOMETIMES WITHOUT HER CHILDREN.

LARRY RECALLS TEACHING HER HOW TO PLAY BLACKJACK IN VEGAS ON HER 7⁵th. BIRTHDAY. AND HE ~~REJECTED~~ ^{recalls} HOW EVER STRANGER WOULD OPEN UP TO HER AT THE TABLES.

PERHAPS IT WAS BECAUSE, AS ELI PUT IT, "SHE HAD THE GIFT OF NEVER JUDGING HER CHILDREN → THAT SHE WAS ~~was~~ ^{able to relate to} ABLE TO ~~HANDLED~~ WITH THEM AS A FRIEND WHEN THEY REACHED ADULTHOOD. SHE WAS ALMOST SAINTLY IN HER ABILITY TO BE NON JUDGEMENTAL - TO ACCEPT PEOPLE AS THEY ARE.

HER GREATEST TEST AS A MOTHER WAS WITH IRVING WHO ~~DIED~~ ^{Died} SO TRAGICALLY AND SO YOUNG AT THE AGE OF 19 OF HODGKINS DISEASE.

^{was an ungodly tragedy:} FOR 8 YEARS LIFE WAS ~~LIKE HELL~~ - HE WAS PARALYZED -- AN INVALID AT HOME - BUT SHE WAS ALWAYS THERE TO CARE FOR HIM. FOR 8 YEARS SHE DEDICATED HER LIFE TO HIS COMFORT.

^{Tulane you remember} ~~TULANCE REMEMBER~~ THAT OTHER PEOPLE WERE ALWAYS MORE IMPORTANT ^{to her} THAN HERSELF. INDEED SHE CARED NOT ONLY FOR HER SON BUT ~~LATELY~~ ^{Later} AN AUNT AND

^{Zeyda} A ZEDA AND AN UNCLE WERE RECIPIENTS OF HER LOVING CARE DURING THEIR ILLNESS. ~~and~~ she was, according to Larry, a caretaker all of her life @ a woman always ready to care for others

~~SHE WAS, ACCORDING TO LARRY, A CARETAKER ALL HER LIFE.~~

A LESSER WOMAN MIGHT HAVE LOST HEART ^{after} _____ SUFFERING SUCH TRAGEDY.
BUT OLGA WAS, AS TULANE DESCRIBES, A TRUE stoic ~~and~~. SHE WAS ABLE TO
FIND HEALING AND GO ON TO BE FULFILLED WITH HER MARRIAGE, HER CHILDREN
AND GRAND-CHILDREN.

SHE WAS FULFILLED IN HER MARRIAGE TO AARON HER BELOVED HUSBAND.
LARRY RECALLS THAT THEY OFTEN TRAVELLED TOGETHER - OLGA HAD A PARTICULAR
FONDNESS FOR DIFFERENT HOTELS AND CITIES.

ACCORDING TO LARRY THEY USED TO LOVE TO GO DANCING TOGETHER. OFTEN
WINNING PRIZES FOR DANCING.

AND SHE COULD, AT A FAMILY Simha ^{Aczatske}, DANCE THE KASATSHE LIKE
NO ONE ELSE IN EDMONTON.

SHE WAS THE BEST BUBBE. THE BEST GRANDMOTHER ANYONE COULD HOPE TO
HAVE.

^{you said}
LARRY ~~CLAIMS~~ THAT IF WE USE LOVE AS A CRITEREIA, HER GRANDCHILDREN
^{not as much as their parents}
LOVED HER AS ~~MUCH AS HER CHILDREN~~. SHE HAD A WONDERFUL WAY OF MAKING
EACH GRANDCHILD KNOW SHE WAS THERE FOR THEM - MAKING EACH FEEL SPECIAL

you recall
JILL ~~RECALLS~~ THAT AS A SMALL CHILD, OLGA WOULD DANCE WITH ~~HER~~ - HOLDING

you ~~HER~~ UP AND TEACHING *you* ~~HER~~ STEPS. ~~SHE WOULD OFTEN BATHE AND DO EXERSIZES~~
WITH HER-GRANDCHILDREN.

JILL WOULD TELL BUBBEE HER PROBLEMS - AND OLGA WOULD HELP - NOT SO
MUCH BY GIVING ADVICE BUT BY LISTENING.

JILL ADMIRED OLGA FOR NEVER HAVING A BAD WORD TO SAY ABOUT ANYONE -
AND ABOUT HOW SHE LOVED AND CARED FOR HER GRANDCHILDREN.

IT WAS PERHAPS BECAUSE OF BUBBEE THAT *some* OF HER GRANDCHILDREN
ENTERED THE CARING FIELD - SOME DEDICATING THEIR LIVES TO SERVE THE
ELDERLY.

LAUREN-GALE RECALLS THAT WHENEVER SHE FELT AGITATED SHE WOULD RUN
TO GRANDMOTHER - AND THERE SHE WOULD FIND PEACE.

OLGA WAS VERY PROUD OF HER HERITAGE. BROUGHT UP IN A RELIGIOUS JEWISH
FAMILY, SABBATH AND HOLIDAYS WERE OBSERVED IN HER HOME WITH CANDLE LIGHTING
AND SPECIAL MEALS.

LAUREN GALE PRAISES HER FOR HER SPECIAL HONEY CAKE. IT WAS AN OPEN SECRET IN THE FAMILY THAT ALONG WITH OTHER INGREDIENTS, OLGA'S HONEY CAKE

INCLUDED A LIBERAL AMOUNT OF CROWN ROYAL, WHICH, I SUPPOSE, CONTRIBUTED TO THE FAMILIY'S HOLIDAY JOY.

*Olga was very active in womens Jewish organizat
- it was perhaps her influence that caused membe
the family to achieve well roles of leadership in the Edmonton Jewish Community*

WE BEGAN BY SPEAKING OF WHOLENESS - OF BIRTH AND DEATH AND THE COMPLETION OF YEARS.

IN A WAY OLGA'S DEATH WITNESSED TO HER WHOLENESS. SHE SUFFERED LONG IN HER ILLNESS -> SPENDING A YEAR IN HOSPITAL TAKEN CARE OF WITH GREAT CARE BY HER DR. MANNY FRIEDMAN. BUT SHE DIED IN HER OWN BED _ WITH DIGNITY.

SHE WAS A PEACEFUL PERSON WHO BROUGHT PEACE TO ALL WHO KNEW HER AND SHE DIED PEACEFULLY - HAVING WAITED FOR SERENA'S ARRIVAL AND TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY GOODBYE.

o.c.v.s.e

87 YEARS AGO - OLGA ROLLINGER WAS BORN - HER BIRTH WAS CELEBRATED AND SHE BEGAN A LONG, BLESSED, FULFILLED LIFE.

TODAY, EVEN AS WE MOURN HER DEATH -

WE CELEBRATE HER LIFE.