



Doris Bernstein

May 15, 2021

Doris Bernstein, age 93 of Willow Valley Communities, Lancaster, PA, died on Saturday, May 15, 2021. Born in Philadelphia, PA, she was the daughter of the late Benjamin and Reba Rabinowitz. Doris is survived by her spouse of 73 years, Alan, her son, David and his wife, Kathe, grandchildren, Jonathan, (Deepthi), and Brian, and by son, Saul, and daughter, Miriam.

A 1945 graduate of Overbrook High School in Philadelphia, Doris was trained as a bookkeeper and secretary. Doris and Alan met in 1945, married in 1948, and after living in Montgomery, AL and Decatur, GA came to Lancaster, PA in 1958 to raise their family and participate in community affairs. After 19 years, she retired from her role as Administrative Assistant at St. Joseph Hospital, serving both the Department of Anesthesia, and the School of Anesthesiology. The students appreciated Doris' professional abilities as well as her sweet, motherly concern for them.

Doris was a Cub Scout Den Mother and a Girl Scout Brownie Mother. She was a member of Temple Beth El and Degel Israel Synagogues and their respective Sisterhoods, as well as a member of the Lancaster Jewish Community Center and Ladies' Auxiliary. A Life Member of Hadassah, the International women's organization dedicated to worldwide hospital care and medical research, she received a Woman of the Year Award for recognition of her dedication. In addition, she was an active worker for Lancaster United

Appeal, and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society.

Her deep lifelong love of animals was also expressed via charitable donations.

Funeral Services will be private.

Please omit flowers. In lieu of flowers, charitable contributions may be made to Hadassah, 40 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005, or to Degel Israel Synagogue, 1120 Columbia Avenue, Lancaster PA 17603.

Tribute Wall



“ *Doris Bernstein*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Loved serving her so much. She was always a pleasure to help! (Former Willow employee) I wish the family very well, including Miriam. Miriam if you're able to see this please email me at soulr3k@gmail.com. It's "hola" Carlos. I miss talking to you and would love to catch up.
Much love*

Carlos Rosado Jr. - January 20, 2022 at 09:50 PM



“ *Alan and family,
We only had an occasion or two to be with Doris, however we remember her as warm and welcoming lady. Our deepest sympathy in your loss.
Jan and Susan Gerhart*

Jan Gerhart - May 23, 2021 at 05:38 PM



“ *I'm so sorry to read of Doris's passing. My mother, Janice Southern and I were very fond of her. She was kind, generous and a true friend to my mother even through her long illness.*

My heartfelt condolences to her family!

Patrice Blesneac - May 22, 2021 at 08:16 AM

BM

“ *My heart goes out to the entire Bernstien family. The smell of roses still takes me back to standing by her amazing flower garden as a small child. Growing up next door to her and the whole family has enriched my life greatly. Saul, if it were not for you, I still wouldn't know how to ride a bike! With love, Bill and Mary Maxson*

bill maxson - May 20, 2021 at 08:49 PM

LM

“Your mother and father lived across the hall from my parents at Willow Valley (the Bookmans). I got to know them when I visited I-209. Eventually, your mom taught me how to play Mah Jongg, a game she loved and that I have come to love as well. She was very patient and encouraging and I will treasure the many Tuesdays I got to play that game with her at Willow Valley.

When I moved to Virginia in 2017, I taught my friends here how to play, and a couple of them loved it so much, they also started teaching. Today, thanks to your mom, we have a Mah Jongg League of 130+ members. Countless times I have been told how much this game, and the friendships that result from playing it, have literally changed their lives.

Every time I teach someone how to play, I tell them about your mom, how she taught me to play, how I thank her for that, and how she called a one bam "One Damn Bam" because everyone confuses it with a flower tile.

We took the picture below when we first started playing in Virginia. This is our initial small group of Mah Jongg beginners, holding up the sign that said "Thank you, Doris!" I sent her the photo and reported in on our progress every time I visited Willow Valley.

This past Monday was the first day we have played for over a year. We all toasted your sweet mom. Her memory will carry on with every single person I teach and every single game I play.

Tight hugs to you all!
Lisa Mears



Lisa Mears - May 20, 2021 at 09:23 AM

CB

“ Dear Alan & Family:. I was so saddened to see Doris's obit in today's paper. My first thought was that God rest her soul and now she will once again see my mom, one of her dearest friends & former co-workers from the good old days at St Joe's Hospital. My mom passed away 3 yrs ago this past Feb & Doris was her close & dear friend. I am so very sorry for your loss. I know, Alan, you probably don't remember me, but I had the pleasure of introducing myself to you & Doris at the dentist's office back when my mom was quite ill. Please accept my sincere condolences to your entire family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time. Sincerely, Carolyn Shoemaker Brown (Caroline Shoemaker's daughter).

Carolyn Brown - May 19, 2021 at 02:43 PM

NB

“ Dear Alan, David, Saul and Mim,
When I saw this precious picture in today's paper, I burst into tears.
i will ALWAYS miss my dear, dear neighbor.
Love to each of you.
I - 209

Nancy Bookman - May 19, 2021 at 08:22 AM