



Florence Kesselman Slavick

May 29, 1924 - January 16, 2021

Florence Kesselman Slavick, (nee Rose), age 96, resident of Glendale, WI, died peacefully in her sleep on January 16 after complications from a fall. Beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, friend, grandmother and great-grandmother, she was born in Cleveland, OH, to I. S. Rose and Tillie Rose, and attended University of Wisconsin where she met her first husband, Morton Kesselman. She was the devoted sister to brothers Earl and Norton Rose and sister-in-law to Rita and Dr. Eli Gecht, Muriel and Edward Levin, Ruth and Marvin Silver, all of Milwaukee and all deceased. At the age of 20 she moved to Kesselman's home city of Milwaukee, where she resided for the next 76 years. She was married to Kesselman for 28 years and in 1984, 12 years after his death, she married Monroe Slavick of Milwaukee, who predeceased her in 2008. She was fond of saying that she had been married for over 50 wonderful years, but that it had taken two men to accomplish the feat. She was the proud mother of sons Howard (Niki) of Prescott, AZ, Lee of Glen Ellyn, IL, and John (Georgine) of Mequon, WI, grandmother of their children Lindsay, Robin and Beth, and great-grandmother of Eleanor Paquin and Rowan Lees. She was the proud stepmother of Harris (Skip) Slavick (Linda) of Vineland, NJ, and Marjorie Frank of Brooklyn, NY, grandmother of their children Adam Frank (Kathleen), Benjamin Frank (Austen Kassinger), Jason Slavick (Tamar), and Karen Slavick-Lennard, and great-grandmother of their children, Quincy Frank, Calvin Frank, Teddy Kassinger Frank, and Hannah Lennard. She considered

her second husband's progeny as her own and resisted the term "step-."

She was known for her generosity, her sociability, her love of family, Jewish traditions, entertaining and friendships. Many called her the matriarch of the family. She was famous for explaining various family relationships and their connections and loved attending recent family reunions. If her sons had friends over to play, she would set an extra place at the dinner table so that they would see they were welcome to stay for dinner. She always wanted to know what was happening in the lives of every member of the family. When her first husband died in 1972, she achieved her real estate sales and broker licenses so that she could manage his business. She was active at Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshuran, where she served on the Temple Board and as President of the Temple Sisterhood. She went on to serve as President of the Midwestern Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, one of her proudest accomplishments. She encouraged her three sons in all their endeavors, including music, athletics, hobbies, and their Jewish educations, and led the Great Books program in its infancy at Fox Point School. She was an avid reader, baker and cook, and frequently wrote to her elected officials to voice her opinions. When invited to serve on a statewide commission, she refused, saying that they had only invited her to serve as a token senior citizen but didn't really care what she thought. Her lifelong love of the arts blossomed in her later years to include regular attendance at the Milwaukee Symphony, Skylight Music Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Art Museum, MET in HD Broadcasts, and Next Act Theatre. She was a fixture in the audience at College of DuPage in Illinois where son Lee and his children performed. She also loved her friends from "the Water Wonders" at Elite Sports Club and her long-time membership in the Rita and Eli Gecht Book Club through the auspices of the Milwaukee Public Library, both of which continued until just months before her death.

She was aware of the multitude of changes that had taken place during her

lifetime. She managed new technologies grudgingly, but understood that change was always a part of a rich life. She vividly remembered people who were born in the 1850's and embraced her 21st century great-grandchildren whenever she could. She recognized that women were granted the vote only 4 years before her birth and never missed an opportunity to cast her ballot. She recalled men coming to her backdoor for soup during the Great Depression, writing letters to servicemen during WWII and she maintained friendships with her college friends until they passed away earlier this year. She welcomed everyone to her table and to her life, was funny, kind, and fiercely strong. She will be missed and remembered as a nurturing parent, a friend and a role-model.

Private interment. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to Congregation Shalom in Fox Point, WI, www.cong-shalom.org <<http://www.cong-shalom.org>>, American Cancer Society, <https://donate3.cancer.org/>, or Southern Poverty Law Center, www.splcenter.org <<http://www.splcenter.org>>.

Topic: Funeral for Florence Slavick

Time: Jan 20, 2021 04:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting hosted by Congregation Shalom

<https://zoom.us/j/93936971149?pwd=OWRWZEd2SXhhQ1MzdDjZStHVVoxdz09>

Meeting ID: 939 3697 1149

Passcode: Shalom

One tap mobile

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 939 3697 1149

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/acKau7OMHk>

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

2615 W. Cleveland Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53215-2901

Tribute Wall



“ Florence Kesselman Slavick

October 06, 2023 at 01:40 PM



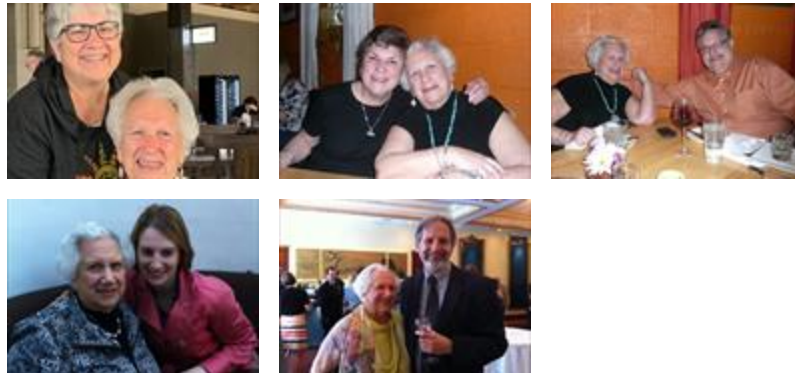
“ It was wonderful getting to know Flo in Book Club. She really was a role model, as a person in her nineties, for showing us how to live a full life. She will certainly be missed. -
Bobbie Szabo



Bobbie Szabo - January 24, 2021 at 03:46 PM



“ Flo... my aunt... my friend. A wonderful woman with intense love for family and friends.



Nancy Harrington - January 23, 2021 at 11:15 AM



“ Our deepest sympathies to your family from your cousins in Chicago, Kalman and Enid Wenig and family.

Nathn Wenig - January 21, 2021 at 05:43 PM

KM

“ My Deepest heartfelt sympathy goes out to Flo's Family. I have had the honor of knowing Flo since October 2013 when I started teaching Water Aerobics on Wednesdays at Elite in Glendale. Flo was very welcoming alway nice to me and great to my daughter Emma, who was 10 at that time and came with me on vacation days from school and in the summers. Throughout the years Flo would always enquire about Emma and tell me to tell her she said hi. We are blessed to have known Flo. She was a classy lady who was sincere and lived life to the fullest, definitely and inspiration and I will miss her dearly.



Kim McQuillan - January 21, 2021 at 11:59 AM

BG

“ Barbara Grant lit a candle in memory of Florence Kesselman Slavick



Barbara Grant - January 20, 2021 at 06:37 PM

BG

I'm blessed to have gotten to know Flo from our book club. I learned so much from her. Will never forget her. One of a kind ❤️🙏

Barbara Grant - January 20, 2021 at 06:44 PM

LI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lindsay - January 20, 2021 at 06:19 PM



“ Dear Kesselman Family,

I posted most of this on Lee's Facebook page the other day. The older your mom (Aunt Florence) got, the cooler and younger she appeared. She had an ageless presence. It was fascinating to watch her interact and bond with her great nieces and nephews like Andrew Kawalek and Madeline Rose. We were all convinced she would live forever. She never missed a birthday when Laurie and I grew up. That generosity was continued when our own kids were growing up, and they received books through the mail - right on time. Her dedication to family was remarkable - as she attended every milestone event she could (shout out to John Kesselman for his devotion to this process). I personally enjoyed picking her brain on I S Rose history - and regret that I didn't ask even more questions. She was the last treasure chest on the Rose family history which I value more now than I ever had. Our deepest condolences to you and your families.

The service today was beautiful. A warm and beautifully spoken eulogy, Lee.

My sister Laurie and I used to talk about the fond memories of the time we spent together as children at various family events. There weren't many of those occasions, but they were always fun.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Warm regards,
Bob*

Bob Rose - January 20, 2021 at 06:04 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Bob Rose - January 20, 2021 at 05:45 PM

RR

“ I have the fondest memories of Aunt Flo and the gatherings of our youth. Deepest condolences K'men. She lived well.

Richard Rose - January 19, 2021 at 07:44 PM

KH

“ Flo was a very dear friend of mine, and my family loved her too. Always a smile on her face, always welcoming. I've exercised with her, shopped, gone to plays, opera, many parties, and celebrations, and will miss her deeply. She was an inspiration to all who met her. I'll share some photos.



Karen Holmes - January 19, 2021 at 03:57 PM

EE

“ *Unconditional love for her family; generosity toward all; lover of the arts; informed citizen; creator of bountiful tables....Florence Kesselman Slavick lived a full life, loved by many. I am fortunate to have known her.*

Emily Ellsworth

Emily Ellsworth - January 19, 2021 at 02:41 PM

CP

“ *Dear Kesselman Family; Flo was one of my special girlfriends. We met thru Congregation Shalom years ago. All of the beautiful things in her obituary rang true with me. One of my fondest memories of her was going with her to see Yo-yo Mah at Ravinia in Chicago about 10 years ago. She loved the concert, but also loved the adventure of it all. Flo will be greatly missed by the community and fondly remembered by all.*

Chris Paler

Chris Paler - January 19, 2021 at 12:04 PM