



Leona Roberta Klaskin

October 5, 1936 - January 28, 2022

Leona Roberta Klaskin (October 5, 1936 - January 28, 2022) was born in Brooklyn, NY to Jean and Murray Kellner. She graduated from Tilden High School and attended Brooklyn College where she received a B.A. and M.A. in Elementary Education. While in college she met and, in 1958, married her husband, Roy. She taught 1st and 2nd grade before being recruited to teach in the NY City's Special Education division where she worked with children who suffered from abuse. Roy's job with IBM had them on the move to locales including NJ, MD, CA, and the island of Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands, Micronesia. Since 1978, Leona and Roy lived in Austin, TX except for temporary assignments in NY and Brussels, Belgium. Leona retired in 1999 after working many years as an office manager in a dental office in Austin.

In retirement, Leona had a passion for travel, was a member of a senior continuing education program at the University of Texas (LAMP), and a willing volunteer for several organizations. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother, and faithful friend to many. Her eternal optimism, tenacity, and strong will all lent themselves to her triumph as a 12-year cancer survivor.

She is survived by her husband, Roy Klaskin, brother and sister-in-law Stewart and Marsha Kellner, daughter Barbara Klaskin, son and daughter-in-law Howard and Kari Klaskin, grandson Thomas Klaskin, and granddaughter Stephanie Klaskin.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that any donations be made to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society <https://givenow.lls.org/give/342076/#!/donation/checkout> or Shalom Austin <https://www.shalomaustin.org/tributes>.

The service will be livestreamed on Facebook by Austin Natural Funerals. A live stream of the service will appear on the Austin Natural Funerals Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/AustinNaturalFunerals>, shortly before 4 pm on Sunday, January 30th. A Facebook account is not required in order to watch. If a pop-up window appears asking you to log in click "not now" and the live stream will be available for you to watch. If the "not now" button does not appear, scroll down on the page and it will come up for you to select.

Tribute Wall



“ *Leona Roberta Klaskin*

October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *How many wonderful memories I have of you Mrs. Klaskin... too many to name. You were always a great role model to me, and left a great impact that I can only dream of achieving. I can't wait to greet you in Heaven when I am older, but until then, I promise I will ALWAYS continue to make you proud.*

Joe Patterson - September 20, 2022 at 12:17 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Leona Roberta Klaskin.*



February 21, 2022 at 09:49 AM



“ *My condolences to you Barbara and to the Klaskin family. We enjoyed some wonderful visit with your Mom and Dad in our home and yours when you lived in the Boston area. Our love is with you all.*

Elana Anderson - February 04, 2022 at 09:34 PM

EN

“ *Leona Klaskin has been a treasured friend among a small group of us, former members of UT LAMP, and one whose smile and intelligence always radiated. How we shall miss her. Her memory will remain strong so long as any one of the rest of us endures.*

Ed Nichols

Edmund Nichols - January 31, 2022 at 09:59 AM

SK

“ *Leona was a wonderful, loving, and kind sister and sister-in-law. We always felt that our children were very fortunate to have such an Aunt. We will miss her always.*

Stewart Kellner - January 30, 2022 at 01:36 PM

AG

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Amy Greenspan - January 30, 2022 at 01:02 PM

LK

“ Aunt Leona was such a kind and wonderful person. She was always taking care of others, and she made such a positive impact on so many lives. When I lived in NYC for school in the 80's, she lived there too. Once a week, she would have me over for dinner. She would say that it was important for me to be with family. She would tell me stories about my grandparents and about her past. Family was very important to her. She emailed me regularly and when we spoke on the phone, it was usually for hours at a time. She made a huge impact on my life. I am glad that she is no longer in pain. I will miss her terribly.

Lisa Klaskin - January 30, 2022 at 07:08 AM

CK

What a kind, sweet disposition aunt she was. Always had a lot of optimism throughout her battle. Wonderful childhood memories going to NJ & MD . Family is very important to my mom so we were always seeing our cousins. I think of you every day aunt Leona when i use my beautiful hand made afghan you made me. You will be terribly missed. RIP

Cindy kellner - January 30, 2022 at 08:22 AM

SO

I had the honor of having Leona in my life for over 30 years. I worked with her in the dental field until she retired. She treated my kids as if they were her grandkids. The world is a better place because she was here and will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. I will always cherish our time together.
Suzy Oliver

Suzy Oliver - January 30, 2022 at 08:47 AM

AG

Leona had a kind and generous spirit, and she was a dear, dear friend to my mom, Elaine Lebowitz, for many years. Their bridge game was the highlight of my mom's week, and Leona went out of her way to make it possible. I've never seen anyone go through so much with such grace. She will be greatly missed. My mom joins me in sending heartfelt condolences to the family.

Amy Greenspan - January 30, 2022 at 12:37 PM

SM

Leona was the most caring person. She regularly called or emailed to check on how we were doing. She organized small get togethers for good chats. Recently we couldn't work it out a visit and each time she would say when it works for you let us know.

We will miss her quiet care.

Stroud and Myra Mcilvain - January 30, 2022 at 06:06 PM

SA

I met Leona just a few years ago. We discovered that we had much in common..Brooklyn, Mah Jongg, etc. She was such a sweet woman. I enjoyed our conversations immensely.

Rest in Peace!

Susan Alonso - February 08, 2022 at 12:42 PM

BR

Richard and I met Leona at our UT LAMP program. She always greeted us with a warm smile as she welcomed us to class. We admired her intelligence and compassion, and enjoyed her wonderful, fun sense of humor. We, too, fondly remember her, and she will be missed. Our deepest condolences go out to Roy and the family.

Beverly Roland - April 13, 2023 at 01:28 PM