



Leslie Susan Rosenberg

April 18, 1956 - October 15, 2018

Leslie Susan Bell Rosenberg (Sarah Bashka), 62, of Austin, Texas, daughter of Bernie and Betty Belle, passed away in the early hours of October 15, 2018. She died in a car crash alongside her youngest daughter Sophie.

Leslie, originally from Monticello, New York, lived a full and eclectic life, sharing her zest and passion with everyone who was blessed to know her. Leslie was a creative soul in every imaginable way, a pianist, artist, and life-long learner-- waking up at 5am for yoga-dance parties and getting her yoga teaching certification three years ago. Graduating from high school early at age sixteen, she was eager to explore the world. Her formal education was focused on music at Boston University and she painted a large mural of a piano on the wall of her apartment. California soon called to her so she could be with her brother and good friend. Leslie was always drawn to an opportunity to participate or host a family party, a trait of her personality that has brought so many people together throughout her life to celebrate. In Los Angeles she got her cosmetology license and had her first child. Soon afterwards, she met the love of her life, Jay, to whom she remained married until her death.

Leslie had a precocious and inspiring spirit, encouraging everyone around her to follow their heart. If she saw any way to help you, she would not miss an opportunity to do everything in her power to do so, whether it be putting you in

touch with the incredible community she always had around her (everyone was just a phone call away and her phone book was full of people eager to hear from her) or showing up at your house with something to make you feel loved.

She was passionate about everything she could explore in the world and loved living abroad. She was an amazing wife, traveling with her husband to five continents around the world. They moved to Zurich, Switzerland with four of their children and moved back to the USA eight years later with eight kids in tow when they settled in Austin, Texas. And then of course, she had to have two native Texan babies to complete the family. Her pride and joy was her family, and she was always finding the most innovative and wonderful ways to bring them joy. She was thrilled to be a grandmother, welcoming everyone into her home, where there wasn't a moment of being an empty-nester. She spent her time with her eight grandkids, teaching them the Cha-Cha, pampering them with love and affection. She was always looking for gifts for everyone around her, no reason needed, surprising people (and animals) with anything she thought would make them smile, chocolate oranges, essential oils, dog treats, and nail kits just to name a few.

Leslie was a committed member of Agudas Achim community in Austin, Texas. She was frequently seen at services, of course adorned with one of her many amazing hats from her extensive collection, and almost always accompanied by one or more members of her large and always growing family who loved being in her presence. It speaks to Leslie's character that she passed away as she had lived, going out of her way to do something kind for her daughter.

She will be remembered with love and smiles for her vivaciousness. Always on the move, she made every effort to make sure her family had everything they needed. Her relentless energy and effervescent spirit will always be in

the hearts of her loving children, family, and everyone she touched.

She is survived by her husband, Jay Rosenberg, and nine of her ten children: Lindsay, Jonathan, Daniel, Tzippy, Jakob, Julie, Emily, Jesse, Jason, eight grandchildren, and two siblings.

Agenda of Events Honoring Leslie & Sophie

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday afternoon, 17 October @ 2:00pm at Congregation Agudas Achim (7300 Hart Lane). Burials will follow immediately thereafter at Austin Memorial Park (2800 Hancock Drive). There will be shiva minyanim at Congregation Agudas Achim beginning Wednesday night and continuing through Monday night. Your presence in our minyanim is always praiseworthy.

SCHEDULE OF MINYANIM

Wednesday (10/17) -- 6:00 pm

Thursday (10/18) -- 6:00 pm

Erev Shabbat services are at 7:00 pm

Saturday night (10/20) -- 8:20 pm

Sunday (10/21) -- 6:00 pm

Monday (10/22) -- 6:00 pm

During the day, the family will be sitting shiva in the Rosenberg home -- 1202 Arronimink Circle, Austin TX.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for support for the funds of the funeral <https://www.gofundme.com/rosenbergssupport> or donations to Texas A&M Chabad and Jewish Family Services.

Cemetery Details

Austin Memorial Park

2800 Hancock Dr
Austin, TX 78731

Tribute Wall



“ *Leslie Susan Rosenberg*

October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *I am so very sorry to here about your brother and niece.*



Susan Rubin - November 30, 2018 at 01:04 PM



“ *Michael Wapnick lit a candle in memory of Leslie Susan Rosenberg*



Michael Wapnick - November 11, 2018 at 10:21 PM

“ For as long as I knew Leslie, she was always smiling, often laughing, so upbeat, so generous and kind, so supportive of everyone.--a nurturing person, even as a child. I met Leslie when we were 9 or so, and that was the beginning of a very close friendship for many years. Starting in her late teens and 20s, though, it was hard to keep up with her, but in a good way. Her life and her location, seemed to change all the time as she would follow her heart, her passions, and her interests to different cities and states. She loved learning--no matter what the subject. Ok, maybe not Math too much, but absolutely everything else, including French and biology/environmental topics. Even juggling! She would watch her high school friend Mitchell Zeidwig juggling and balancing objects on his nose, and then she would tell me all about how wonderful and amazing it (and he) was. She came along on many family vacations; we went together to St. Maarten, Vermont, Montreal, and on lots of shorter trips. We were very often at each others houses talking, playing, playing music, talking about boys, about books, about everything, and eating---eating a lot. (How come she never gained weight and I always did?) She liked sports or maybe just exercise. I remember how much she enjoyed horseback riding at summer camp. Years later, when we were applying to colleges, she told me excitedly that she had found a particular college where you could major in horseback riding...and she was serious about it, too! Her greatest talent, I think, evident from childhood, was art. What an artist, in every way. She had a great sense of color. I loved her colorful clothes, artistic fabrics, hats, jewelry, hairstyle ideas. She was so good at fashion and at drawing, especially cartoon-like drawings. One day I came over to the Bell family house and she showed me how she was secretly starting to paint the walls of her bedroom with various characters and images. I thought it was so beautiful! I'm not sure what happened with that project...did mom find out? Leslie was musical, too. She played the piano and had a good ear. I remember her ragtime music phase, and that famous Scott Joplin song-- "Maple Leaf Rag"-- that she learned and played absolutely everywhere there was a piano. It always seemed that Leslie wanted to get away from home--to go

out and see the world. But as much as she wanted to get away, I think deep down she also wanted stability. I think in the back of her mind, even as a young person, she knew that she wanted a family some day, a Jewish family, with a lot of children surrounding her whom she could adore and love, and who would love her right back. She found in Jay someone who shared that vision, someone grounded, and someone who loved her a lot and vice versa. She was a great mother and an excellent friend and wife.

Little funny story--Leslie had a cat named Zippy back when we were in either middle or high school. A very cute kitty! Fast forward to the birth of daughter Tzipporah. Leslie was talking to me, I think, on the phone and when I asked what the baby's name was, she said "Sippy," to which a totally startled me replied, "You named her after your cat??" (I had heard the name as Zippy.)

Ahhhhh.....the last time I saw Leslie and Jay and the family was in Zurich. Then they moved to Austin, and that's where I left off. Many years went by.

The world has lost a gem of a person.....but she lives on, literally, forever, in all of the children and in Jay's heart.

*Love you all,
Wendy (Gavis)*

Wendy Gavis Lainjo - October 18, 2018 at 10:30 PM

DD

“ I wanted to stand up and speak at the funeral for your beloved mom and sister. This is what I would have said to all of you beautiful children. I had the unique vantage point of teaching some of you at Forest Trail and some of you at Westlake over my 32 years in the district. Then in my last year at Westlake Sophie made it on my rolls. I taught over 20,000 kids in my career and I have 53 first cousins from 18 aunts and uncles. I know a little bit about family dynamics and big families. I tell you this because I never met a Rosenberg I didn't love. How could a mom birth that many children and set an example so loving to form a beautiful shining loving human in every single one of you. My heart aches for your family. I received visits from your mom every year after most of you graduated. She'd pop in to the classroom just to make sure I was doing fine. I've got some stories to tell you one day. I followed you through your moms Facebook page and trolled her friends to get a glimpse at each of you. Please keep her Facebook intact and continue adding family photos often. I love you all to the moon and back.

Your art teacher Dawn Delgado. David was with me at the funeral and sends his ❤️

dawn delgado - October 18, 2018 at 08:40 PM

AE

“ To the Rosenberg, Bell and Forman families. I am so very sorry to hear about the death of Leslie and Sophie. I remember Leslie as the so cool older sister of one of my closest friends - her younger sister Cathy. And - I knew Jay from the math team and as one of his fellow math friends.

My deepest condolences to you all.

Anne Eisenberg

Anne Eisenberg - October 18, 2018 at 07:06 PM

BT

*How are you; I just heard the news about Leslie and Sophie and my heart is aching !!! She was a friend of mine and I loved ve her family❤️
🙏 I will always remember her and her lovely big family . My condolences to the whole family . I will pray for them always, Barbel Todd and family ❤️😔*

Barbel Todd - November 01, 2018 at 10:25 PM

SN

“ Shaina Nash lit a candle in memory of Leslie Susan Rosenberg



Shaina Nash - October 18, 2018 at 12:56 AM

SN

“ Leslie was a light in my life. She was so kind and attentive. She was generous of spirit. She helped me when I was down. I will love her forever.

Shaina Nash - October 18, 2018 at 12:56 AM

DS

“ Baruch. Dayan Ha'Emet, I am so shocked and sorry to hear of Leslie and Sophie's tragic passing. I have so many fond memories of Leslie from when we were growing up. She had the best birthday parties, she made every group project we worked on together in school look great with her artistic talent. She was always there with a smile to share. To Mitchell, Cathy, Jay, and all of the Rosenberg children, I am so sorry for your loss, and hope that someday you can take comfort in your good memories of your mom. Debby Ruben Sullum

Debby Ruben Sullum - October 17, 2018 at 09:55 PM

AL

“ I was shocked and saddened to learn about the loss of Leslie and Sophie. I went to camp with Leslie. I grew up with her brother Mitchell and her brother-in-law David.
Growing up in a small closeknit town I also knew Jay and the entire families.
May the good memories , loving friends and family help comfort all of you at this time.
May you know no more sorrow. May they rest in peace and their memories be for a blessing.

Abe Linner - October 17, 2018 at 03:43 PM

RR

“ Jay, Mitchell, David and family- I was shocked and saddened to hear of the horrific loss of Leslie and Sophie. I grew up around the corner from the Bells, and remember her being the always smiling, "little girl". I was happy when my two Monticello friends married. I hope that your memories provide you with comfort, and others are grieving with you.

*Richard Rubin
Albany*

Richard Rubin - October 17, 2018 at 12:03 PM

SH

Dear Jay, Cathy, Mitchell and all of Leslie's and Sophie's family and friends, near and far. There are no words to truly convey my heartfelt sorrow for your tragic loss. I knew Leslie as Cathy's big sister, and remember that she always had a warm smile and a kind word to share. I saw her at the last reunion hosted by Mr. Willys, and she beamed with pride as she told me about her large, beautiful family. May your loving memories be a comfort and a blessing and may you be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem .

*Shellie Steier Holl
Philadelphia,PA*

Shellie Holl - October 21, 2018 at 07:33 PM

DD

“ *This makes me so sad it made me cry. I just heard the news. My friend Leslie Bell Rosenberg has passed to be with God.*



We met in Austin and she always made me smile. When we worked together in Austin in the Prop 1 Ride Sharing Campaign, I would always find her throwing a party in the parking lot with her many children, friends and husband when I would stop to check on them. She would tell me she was bringing them in to register to vote for our job security. And I would have to laugh. She was doing exactly that.

Later when she went to Denmark for a work assignment with her husband, she graciously invited me to visit.

She was vivacious and bright with a curious mind, a talented artist, a wonderful Mom to her 10 children, and a loving Light in a dark world.

Shine on in Heaven, beautiful, bright Leslie. You will be deeply missed here on Earth. My heart and prayers are with her beautiful family. God bless you all. <3

Deana DeHaven - October 17, 2018 at 07:32 AM

DB

“ *The passing of my dear childhood friend, Leslie, along with a daughter, is absolutely shocking. I have so many precious memories of Leslie, from celebrating her birthday with a magnificent cake made by her talented father, Bernie, who was a baker at the Concord Hotel. Leslie made me a 3-D card that hung on my bedroom door for years after we graduated high school. My deepest condolences to Jay, Mitchell, Cathy and her entire family. May her memory be a blessing. Baruch Dayan Ha'Emet. Debbie Goldenberg*

Debbie Brown - October 17, 2018 at 05:29 AM