

PROCLAMATION

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

NORMA FRISCH ROSENBLOOM

On behalf of the Borough of Red Bank, I wish to record our deep sorrow over the passing of community activist, Norma Frisch Rosenbloom on September 26, 2022 at the age of 96, beloved mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, mentor, and friend. Norma's life was dedicated to the best interests of the community and her family.

On Halloween of 1946 Norma married her late husband, Philip Rosenbloom, and the couple took up residence above Phil's family print shop in Asbury Park. With the birth of their first son, the family moved to Interlaken where Norma quickly established herself as a leading advocate for civil rights and an active worker for the NAACP. During this phase of her life, Norma raised three sons and supplemented the family's income by working as a music teacher at the Ranney School. When her sons reached college age, Norma shifted gears by attending Rutgers Law School, then passing the New York and New Jersey Bar. After a stint with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's office, Norma worked as a family lawyer with Abrams Gatta in Ocean Township.

Retirement did not stem her seemingly endless energy and passion for activism. Norma continued advocating pro bono for recovering substance abusers in halfway homes and victims of domestic violence. Splitting their time between Manhattan and Monmouth Beach, she and Phil still managed to tour all seven continents. This inseparable couple enjoyed ballooning, parasailing, and amassing an extraordinary collection of objets d'art (and tchotchkes.) An ardent feminist, Norma served on the board of Planned Parenthood.

A grassroots organizer for the Democratic Party, Norma was a veteran Monmouth County Democrat and long serving chair of the Shrewsbury Democratic Committee, earning a reputation as a mentor for candidates at the county and state levels; respected for her savvy political insights and at times brutal honesty.

In 2003, with Phil's sudden passing at age 78 on their 57th anniversary, Norma moved to a senior neighborhood in Shrewsbury, where she continued as an indefatigable presence in Monmouth County politics right up to the final days of her life. Among many awards and distinctions, Norma in 2019 was presented with the Woman's Suffrage Award by the Monmouth County Democratic Women's Caucus "for her selfless service and dedication to women's rights."

For all her accomplishments Norma was fiercely proud of and devoted to her family: sons; Dr. David Shepard, a psychologist in Los Angeles, James Shepard-Kegl, an airline pilot in Portland, Maine, and Dr. Eric Shepard, an anesthesiologist in Baltimore; her five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and Brother Richard Frisch.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pasquale Menna, Mayor of the Borough of Red Bank, on behalf of the entire Borough Council, in recognition of Norma Frisch Rosenbloom's many contributions, do hereby express our deep appreciation for her dedication to the progress of social justice and extend to her family our sincere sympathy upon her passing.


PASQUALE MENNA, MAYOR