



Bess Bella Carroll

March 15, 1922 - October 14, 2018

Obituary for Bess Bella Carroll born March 15, 1922-died October 14, 2018.

Bess was born in Brooklyn, New York on March 15, 1922, the daughter of Hyman and Fannie Martel,

immigrants from a small village in the Ukraine. The family held education as a critical value and

Bess was the first to graduate from Brooklyn College. In 1941 she married Joel Carroll, who was the

brother of her childhood friend. During the war they lived in Denver, CO and Washington DC with

their first two children, Robert and Bonnie. After the war, the family settled in Bellmore on Long

Island, NY and Nancy was born.

Bess was an elementary school teacher in Denver, Washington and ended her career as a first grade

teacher at a private Jewish day school in Great Neck, New York where she was recognized as one of

their prized teachers. After retirement, She and Joe moved to Oak Ridge, Tennessee to be near

daughter Bonnie and husband Roy Cooper.

They may have retired from their jobs, but not from their lives. She and Joe were world travelers, and

loved regaling their stories of trips to Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. While living at

Greenfield in Oak Ridge, pictures of her travels always pleased all the staff and visitors in her room.

Bess also had a penchant for the Arts. She was a community theater actress in her early years and over

the years she created many pieces of sculpture which grace the homes of family and friends. She was

an active member of the Oak Ridge arts community and participated in the Art Center and

in ORCMA.

She was also an active life-long learner, taking advantage of everything (almost) ORICLE had to offer.

After the death of her husband, Bess continued to be active in the Oak Ridge community and developed

a special friendship with Leon Morse until his death a few years ago. She moved to Bethesda MD for

two years to be near Nancy. There she met Kofi Konadu, who became her care giver and companion

as she aged. Kofi moved to Tennessee with her in 2014. He became part of the family and, with

Bonnie, cared for her until her death.

Bess was the oldest of four siblings. Her brothers Julius (married to June) and Bill (married to Rhoda),

and her sister Mabel (married to Julius, still living in Rochester, New York), all pre-deceased her.

Bess and Joe had three children. Bess is survived by Robert who married Susan, and they had Bess's

first grandson, Josh. They all live in Los Angeles, California. Bonnie married Roy Cooper. Bonnie

founded and ran Information International Associates here in Oak Ridge until March of this year. They

live in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Alexandria, VA. Nancy Carroll Scheiner, Bess and Joe's youngest

daughter, died in 2012 She was married to Stanley Scheiner and had two children, Danny (now living in

Tennessee) and Matey (living in Washington, DC.)

Bess and Joe were beloved and active members of the Oak Ridge Community as they lived in their

home and later Bess in a retirement center (Greenfield). Bess will be buried next to Joe in the JCOR

Cemetery which is in the Oak Ridge Memorial Park.

Funeral services will be held at the Martin Funeral Home in Oak Ridge. Receiving of Friends will be

on Wednesday October 17

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at 1:30pm followed by a Memorial Service at 2:00pm and then internment

following the Memorial. In the Jewish tradition, the family asks that instead of flowers donations be

made to the ORCMA, ORICLE, or the charity of your choice

Online messages may be left for the family at www.martinfuneralhomeoakridge.com.

Services entrusted to Martin Oak Ridge Funeral home 865-483-4341

Comments



“ Bonnie,
Sorry to hear about your Mom. It was a joy talking to her at Ila events. Peace be with you and your family.

Terri

Terri Velliquette - October 18, 2018 at 11:29 AM



“ Bonnie, I am so sorry to hear of Bess' passing. I always remember her at the Ila events and crossing paths in Oak Ridge. Take care of yourself and Roy, Sincerely,
Shelaine Curd

Shelaine Curd - October 17, 2018 at 04:56 PM



“ Bonnie,
I have nothing but wonderful memories of your mom. When I think of your Mom I can't help but smile. Bess was such a lovely, elegant woman. She was velvet steel! I so enjoyed the times I talked to her at Ila celebrations and events. I remember you and your mom dancing together after the Dragon Boat Races. You are a shining example of a loving, devoted daughter. You always loved and honored your mom and anyone who spent two seconds with the two of you knew how much you loved each other. I am so sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family in my prayers during this difficult time. Thoughts and Prayers...Leslie

Leslie Mitchell - October 17, 2018 at 01:35 PM



“ Bonnie, I am so sorry to have learned about your loss of Bess. She was a wonderful and amazing lady and will be greatly missed. I loved talking with her when she came to the office and to many Ila events. My thoughts are with you and all of your family.

With all my love and deepest sympathy,
Mendy Wolfenbarger



Mendy Wolfenbarger - October 16, 2018 at 09:51 PM



“ I have so many memories of my Aunt Bessie! She and Uncle Joe often took care of my brothers and me while our parents were away. We would stay in her house on Long Island. She always encouraged us to find something fun to do. I liked to explore the house as there were so many interesting objects of art to notice. I also remember Bess liked to sit and talk with us. She would ask questions and seemed genuinely interested in our replies, even though we were still kids. She made us feel valued.

Paul Silver - October 16, 2018 at 05:10 PM



“ Love from Paul and Cheryl purchased the Fields of Europe for Spring for the family of Bess Bella Carroll.



Paul S Silver - October 16, 2018 at 05:03 PM



“ I met Bess and Joe when Bonnie and Roy were married, July 4, 1980. I also met Nancy, Robert, Susan and Josh at the same occasion. A real sense of family emerged from that great day and as the years passed, though I have lived abroad over all those years, I continued to see and get to know better Bess and Joe and their family. Friendship doesn't quite capture the quality of their coast-to-coast wits and insights and lives led. When Bess settled in Oak Ridge and after Joe passed away, I continued to spend time with Bess when I'd be back in town. It fast became a highlight of my trips, to go out for coffee with her, to join her in her garden, to go with her and Roy and Bonnie to the theater, or just simply finding a corner of a couch to talk away the hours. She was a superb talker, a great storyteller, a constant vitality about her being, the very meaning of twinkle in the eye, with an infectious laugh that could keep you going. Even after her intake of coffee had to slow down then stop, our times for catching up never did. I can only imagine the variety of lives she touched and changed as teacher, parent, friend and fellow traveler in life. I miss you, Bess.

Rick Cooper

Richard Cooper - October 16, 2018 at 03:24 PM



“ Bonnie, so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts

Kent Turner - October 16, 2018 at 12:12 PM



“ I had the delightful experience of being among the first to welcome Bella to Oak Ridge through a Welcome Wagon visit. She was a lovely interesting lady and she will be greatly missed. You have my deepest sympathy

Ginny Minturn

Ginny Minturn - October 16, 2018 at 11:07 AM