



## Rita M. Leslie Obituary

May 23, 1931 - July 31, 2012

Leslie, Rita M., age 81, passed away Tuesday, July 31, 2012, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, after a short illness. She was an amazing Mom, a doting granny, an faithful friend, and a force of her own nature. She was the love of her late husband Bob's life.

Rita was born to John and Viola Glinski in Detroit, Michigan, in 1931. She was predeceased by her husband Bob Leslie, who she met while taking flight instruction from him in Merritt Island, Florida. She was also predeceased by her brothers Albert and Paul Glinski. Rita's survivors include her sister Joan Myers; her children Mary (Stacey), Mike (Ellie), Lon (Susana), Jay (Yolonda); 6 grandchildren, as well as children and grandchildren of Bob's first marriage, and many dear friends.

Rita's working life spanned the development of telecommunications in the late forties, through the space race of the 1960's, and concluded with her 1987 retirement from Oak Ridge Associated University (ORAU) in 1987. She worked for Bell Telephone and was employed for 8 years at Radiation Inc. in Melbourne, Florida, developing the first micro-chips. Rita began her career at ORAU as a dialcord-switchboard operator and she retired as an executive administrative assistant.

Rita's interests included gardening, birding, travel with her late husband Bob, reading, art films, local and international history, and music. Donations in her name can be sent to Ijams Nature Center, 2915 Island Home Ave, Knoxville, TN, 379230.

In keeping with Rita's wishes a private celebration of Rita's life was held.

# Comments

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“ Mike and Mary,  
I don't have the words to describe what your mom meant to me and my parents. She was a wonderful lady in every way and will forever live in my memories. You are in my thoughts.

**Jean Craven McLuckey - West Lafayette, IN - neighbor and friend** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Ms. Rita. I was her mail carrier for about 4 years and she was always so kind to me. She invited me in to see a document that I had delivered to her that she had laminated. She seemed so excited as she explained the history behind the item! It was always an inspiration to me to see her and speak with her. I will always hold her dear in my heart. Reba Mickel

**Reba Mickel - Oak Ridge, TN - friend** - August 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ Mike and Mary;  
I am so sorry to hear about Rita's death in today's Oak Ridger. I know you and I Your entire families were all miss her. Rita and Bob were such good friends and neighbors to my parents Jim and Lessie Summer when they lived on Pawley Rd. My sincere sympathy to each of you.  
Sincerely,  
Barbara Summer Green

**Barbara Summer Green - Nashville, TN - Friend** - August 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Mary & Mike,  
  
I'm so sorry to hear about your mother's death. My parents are both gone now, and I miss them both. You all will be in my family's prayers.

Milton

**Milton Stanley - Mud Creek, TN** - August 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM