



Ellen Faith Perlman Gale

November 28, 1931 - February 3, 2023

Ellen Faith Perlman Gale (91), passed away on Friday, February 3, 2023, in Alexandria, VA. Beloved wife of the late Manfred Gale; cherished mother of Deborah (Me'ira) Gale, William Gale (Diane Lim), Barbara Jean Shiff (Allon Shiff); adored grandmother of Joseph Spiro, Daniel Gale, Shoshana Spiro, Rebecca Gale, Madelaine Shiff, and Ian Shiff.

Ellen was born on November 28, 1931 in Brooklyn, New York, the fourth child of Meyer and Bessie Perlman, preceded in birth by her sister Lorraine and brothers Leon and Seymour. As a child she loved to read and watch the Brooklyn Dodgers. She graduated from Brooklyn College in 1953 with a degree in Sociology, where she also completed a year of graduate work in Economics. She moved to Richmond, VA, shortly thereafter to live with her sister, Lorraine, and Lorraine's husband Sam Melworth. There, she met Manfred Gale, whom she married on June 12, 1955.

A resident of Greenspring Senior Living Community, and a long-time resident of Northern Virginia, she was active throughout her life in a broad variety of organizations whose missions aligned with her deep interest in social justice, Jewish culture and values, education, archeology, interfaith relations and classical music.

She was involved with many Jewish community institutions, including Beth El

Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, the Pozez Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, and the Foundation for Jewish Studies. She arranged and participated in many adult education classes. She was also a community activist in the League of Women Voters and in local and state politics. She volunteered at the Smithsonian Institution, the Kennedy Center, and Wolf Trap, among many others.

A funeral service will take place at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304 on Monday February 6, 2023, at 1:00 PM. Interment will follow immediately at King David Memorial Gardens Falls Church, VA, with an expected start of 3:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be made to the Pozez Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (<https://www.thej.org/donate>)

Previous Events

Funeral Service

FEB 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Beth El Hebrew Congregation
3830 Seminary Road
Alexandria , VA 22304

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellen was such a lovely loving person. We have many fond memories of her encouragement and support. Our deep condolences to Debbie and family. May Ellen's memories be a blessing. Paul Berger and Stephanie Mensh (Smensh@aol.com)* ”

Stephanie Mensh - February 05, 2023 at 04:58 PM