



## REGINE ROSENBAUM

July 29, 1933 - December 29, 2018

SERVICES: 11:00 AM MONDAY 12/31/2018 at HEBREW MEMORIAL CHAPEL

A LINK WILL BE PROVIDED FOR A WEBCAST OF THE FUNERAL SERVICE

Age 85, of Oak Park, died December 29, 2018.

Born in Brussels, Belgium, Reggie survived the Holocaust as a hidden child in several Catholic orphanages. She immigrated with her parents, Hela and Kiva Gilbert, to the U.S. in 1950, and lived in Detroit. She met Manuel Rosenbaum, also a Detroit resident, who wooed and won her love. All who knew Reggie appreciated her sassy sense of humor, her intelligence and her love of family.

Beloved wife for 63 years to Manuel Rosenbaum.

Devoted mother of Michael (Janet Schester-Rosenbaum)Rosenbaum, Harold Rosenbaum and Andrew (Sue Stejskal) Rosenbaum.

Loving grandmother of Sarah Rosenbaum and Joseph Rosenbaum.

### OFFICIATING:

Rabbi Daniel Syme

### INTERMENT:

Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery

### SHIVA:

The family will gather informally through Friday  
at the residence

24111 Stratford Street

Oak Park, MI 48237

(248) 968-9376.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of

REGINE ROSENBAUM

you may do so by making a contribution to:

ROGEL CANCER CENTER

C/O UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

1500 E Medical Center

Dr. Rogel Cancer Center Building

Ann Arbor, MI 48109

800-865-1125

[www.uofmhealth.org](http://www.uofmhealth.org)

or

KARMANOS CANCER INSTITUTE

Contributions - VE01FS

4100 John R,

Detroit, Michigan 48201

248.351.1850 x7602

[giving@karmanos.org](mailto:giving@karmanos.org)



# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



Hebrew Memorial Chapel - December 31, 2018 at 09:24 AM

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“ Dear Manny, Andrew, Harold, and Michael

I have so many wonderful memories of cousin Reggie from my childhood. She would come visit all of us in Montreal each year and I thoroughly looked forward to spending time with her. We had a few inside jokes between us that we kept going each chem we would see each other. Reggie was a very warm, loving, and incredible woman who will be dearly missed.

All our love,

The Fleming & Gelbart family (Patrick, Ayleen, Emma, Morgan & Sawyer)

Ayleen Gelbart - January 01, 2019 at 09:32 AM

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“ I'm sorry I couldn't be here to once more say “Go home, Pedgie.” That's how I, as a hospitable and precocious toddler, welcomed Uncle Manny's fiancée upon our first encounter. Once she produced a box of chocolates, I relented and let her stay for dinner. It was our running joke for decades: “Go home, Pedgie.”

My dear Tanta did go home—to a house in Oak Park where up to 3 generations cohabited under the watchful eye of a Queen Nefertiti bust, and later against a backdrop of the Golden Gate Bridge. It was home for a woman whose childhood was spent in cloistered displacement. Separated from her parents. In loneliness, confusion, narrow escapes, abandonment and what years later she called “the insanity that had invaded my life.”

Like many Shoah survivors, Aunt Reggie was reluctant to share that world. The warm, wry and always welcoming Régine Gilbertowitz Rosenbaum wore an image of Brussels that bespoke

La Grande-Place, pommes frites, the Manneken Pis and, of course, chocolate. But that image masks a history of persecution, state terror and genocide that had invaded Europe.

Aunt Reggie rebuilt her life in suburban America. With her live-in boyfriend and 3 kids. A lawn, carport, 28-inch screen TV, portable dishwasher, basement (Sorry, Uncle Manny), and translucent glass separating kitchen from dining room. Much like the home in which I grew up just a block away.

In later years, Americans learned how to appreciate quality chocolate, and my Aunt got herself a gig with Godiva. (Sorry, Pedgie, but now we've got fair trade organic with chili pepper, salted caramel, blood orange peel—and higher percentages of cacao). Aunt R moved seamlessly from landlines and pink message slips to cell phones and email. And, she nearly surpassed my Uncle in on-line correspondence. He who, along with Al Gore, had introduced many of us to the Internet.

Today Aunt Reggie is spared the anti-Semitic nightmares of her past. And the embers of fascism that are rekindled in Europe and lay at our own doorstep. She is spared the continuing displacement of children and family separation.

She did go home again. To Stratford Street. Where her soul mate, Uncle Manny, and my Cousin Harold kept constant vigil, joined by capable carers and visits from her gantze mishpawcha.

I wish you could've stayed a little longer, Tanta. I don't really need the chocolate any more.

Stephen Rosenbaum - December 31, 2018 at 07:50 PM

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“ Béatrice Langer, Muriel's younger sister, who lives in Angers, France, asked me to post the following. Their grandmother, Machla Rosenbaum Dziencial, was the sister of Manuel's father (Reggie's father-in-law) David.

<<Quand nous l'avons rencontrée en 1972, Muriel, Sylvain et moi, elle nous a emmenés dans un supermarché de jouets comme il n'en existait pas encore en Europe, en nous disant de choisir le jouet qu'on préférerait. Le rêve ! Je crois que nous y avons passé un temps fou, sans pouvoir nous décider devant une telle abondance. Je me souviens avoir été étonnée de recevoir un tel cadeau d'une personne que je venais juste de rencontrer. Alors, Maman nous a expliqué que Régine était une de ses amies, qu'elles étaient arrivées toutes les 2 de Belgique et s'étaient rencontrées dans un groupe de francophones et c'est grâce à maman qui lui a présenté son cousin que Régine a rencontré l'amour de sa vie ... et c'est par reconnaissance qu'elle a voulu nous faire ce cadeau.>>

My translation:

"When Muriel, Sylvain and I met [Régine] in 1972, she took us to a large toy store, the kind which didn't yet exist in Europe, telling us to choose the toy we preferred. A dream! I think we spent a crazy amount of time without being able to decide, amidst such abundance. I remember being surprised to receive such a present from someone I had just met. Mama [Machla's daughter Ida] later explained to us how

Régine was one of her friends, that they had both arrived from Belgium in a group of French speakers and thanks to Mama, who introduced her cousin [Manuel] to her, Régine met the love of her life...and in recognition she wanted to offer us this gift."

Stephen Rosenbaum - December 31, 2018 at 07:41 PM

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“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Stephen Rosenbaum - December 31, 2018 at 07:05 PM

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“ Dear Cousins

I've heard the sad news through Steve. I'm so sad for your loss.

I've met Reggie only a few times in my life, when i was a kid and a ten, but I cherish these memories. She was very special to our family ( Robert Langer and Ida Dzienciol) because she was the reason why my parents met. She was a dear friend of my mother's from their previous life. I remember a very generous soul, lively and so funny, especially when she made us laugh on purpose, speaking French that she had quite forgotten for the love of her husband. She was my favorite. May her light shine for ever.

Langer Muriel - December 31, 2018 at 10:19 AM

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“ Tyere Uncl' un Kousine Mike, Janet, Harold, Andy, Sue, Sarah and Joseph Kiwa,

I'm sorry I can't be with you at this time. You have been through so much. You gave every ounce of love and support to a wife, companion, mother and grandmother whose time on earth blessed and touched all of us. I'm thankful for our brief reunion at my Mom's 90th last June when my Aunt was all aglow.

Susan will be there soon--on behalf of your West coast family--to share in grief and wonderful memories.

Mit a kus,  
Shimin (Steve)

Stephen Rosenbaum - December 30, 2018 at 08:25 PM

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“ Dear Uncle Manny and cousins Mike, Janet, Harold, Andy, Sue, Sarah and Joe,

I am of course devastated at the loss of my warm and funny Aunt Reggie. I know these last few months have been tough.

We had a lot of good jokes and laughs over the years, and I also cherish the connection we shared over what would be our last visit in August while she was hospitalized.

Much love and healing to all of you as you grieve,  
Susan

**Susan Rosenbaum** - December 30, 2018 at 07:51 PM

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“ Dear Manny, Michael and Janet, Harold, Andrew and Sue;

I was devastated to hear of Reggie's passing yesterday.

Ava and I came to see her last July, after hearing that her health was deteriorating. I am now so grateful that I got to see her one last time before her untimely passing.

She was lively, bright, inquiring, informative, full of life and humor, and kindness and love for all who knew her. Nothing can replace her in my life or my heart as she was always my most beloved relative.

**Felix Gelbart** - December 30, 2018 at 05:28 PM