

CONDOLENCE



Aleph Melbourne extends our sincere condolences to the family of

Francine Shadur

on her tragic death.

Francine brought so much vivaciousness and cheer to "Jews of Pride" in recent years.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of

JUDY CUKIERMAN

who passed away ten years ago on September 12, 2012 (26 Elul 5772)

A beautiful person, so sadly missed by Her husband **Louis**,

Children **David** and **Lauren**, Sister **Jona** and brother-in-law **Ariel** and families and so many loved and loving friends

Always in our hearts

CONSECRATION

The consecration of the tombstone erected in loving memory of

DAHLIA HERMAN

will take place at the Chevra Kadisha Cemetery, Browns Road, Springvale on Sunday 18th September 2022 at 1.00pm
Compartment 23, Row H, Plot 1

CONSECRATION

The consecration of the tombstone erected in loving memory of

BETTY BORKOWSKI

will take place at the Springvale Botanical Cemetery, 600 Princes Highway, Springvale on Sunday 11th September 2022 at 11.00am
Plane Tree Court, Plot L42.

CONSECRATION

The consecration of the tombstone erected in loving memory of

HANNA (HANIA) POPIOLEK

will take place at the Springvale Botanical Cemetery, Jewish Memorial Gardens 2 on Sunday 18 September at 2.00pm

BEREAVEMENTS

All notices must be placed by

Monday 3.00pm

(subject to availability)

email us

notices@jewishnews.net.au

THE Australian Jewish News

OBITUARY

Email 500-word obituaries together with a photograph to shaned@jewishnews.net.au

A survivor and hero

Luba was born and raised in the shtetl of Ciechanowicz, Poland.

She attended the Zionist Tarbut school, and spoke fluent Hebrew. Luba's schooling was interrupted after the death of her father, when she moved to Bialystok to study dressmaking.

Little did Luba know at the time that this trade would later save her life more than once.

In 1939 Luba returned to Ciechanowicz. The family home was bombed in the Nazi invasion, and Luba was sent to relatives in nearby Sokoly. She never saw her family again.

In Sokoly Ghetto Luba became a food smuggler. She narrowly avoided death one early morning outside the ghetto, when an entourage of German soldiers appeared.

Instead of running, Luba chose to approach and bid the soldiers greetings.

The very next morning, Ghetto inhabitants were forced to witness the hanging of another smuggler.

Sensing imminent liquidation, Luba and some relatives escaped the Ghetto. To maximise chances of survival, Luba separated from the family group, wandering in the forests, starved, cold and alone.

Luba was sometimes helped in exchange for sewing, but more often turned away, escaping impending death on countless occasions.

She recalled the voice of her mother who appeared in her dream guiding her. This continued throughout the war.

Luba knew her only hope was to find the Russian Partisans, and when she did, she attributed it to heavenly help.

She joined the Zhukov Otriad in the Bransk Forest. She slept in a bunker under a tree, became a trained fighter and participated in several missions including the detonating of a bridge.

Luba never saw herself as a victim. In the forest there was fighting, danger and death.

But there was also singing, laughter,

romance, and life. Luba was one of two members of her Otriad, decorated for bravery.

In the Bransk Yizkor Book, an excerpt written about her reads:

"A Tchekheavster young woman is hiding in the Bransk forest with the Bransk Partisans. At the attack on their trench on 8 December 1943 she shows how brave she is. Luba stands in the trench and is visible from the waist up. She is shooting. Whilst Vanye Zhabate shoots, she prepares more weapons for him. She hands them to him and shouts bravely "Shoot Vanye," whilst using the automatic pistol herself and directing Vanya. She survived."

At the end of the war, Luba stood alone and asked God for a new home and family. She was eternally grateful when her prayers were answered.

She married Chaim, a Holocaust survivor, and together with their two children Goldie and Jack, arrived in Melbourne 1949 aboard The Napoli.

Luba commenced work as an overlocker and dressmaker, working 18-hour days. In the early 1950s, Luba and Chaim opened a shmatte shop in Brunswick.

"There was love and friendship in our shop. I felt a deep friendship with most of my customers. They would tell me about their problems, and I would try to help them the best I could. I would say a little prayer for them. I would repair their clothing, without charge. I gave credit to a lot of people. At Christmas time I crossed off all debts that were outstanding. I started each New Year with a clean slate"

After retirement, Luba and Chaim lived their best life, always surrounded by friends and family. Luba cooked delicious foods of her past and nurtured her six grandchildren. She sewed glamorous outfits for herself, granddaughters and later, many great grandchildren.

Luba's spirituality gave her faith in God and motivated her to care deeply for people. Luba contributed to many charities, especially



Luba Wrobel Goldberg

1923-2022

for children. She was a regular at Kadima, Theodore Herzl Club, National Council of Jewish Women, and every commemoration of the Holocaust.

Luba was passionate about educating Australians about racial hatred. In her late sixties, she studied VCE English and wrote two memoirs detailing her survival during the Holocaust, and her trials and tribulations as a migrant.

Most of Luba's inner circle were Holocaust survivors, but Luba loved to meet people from all walks of life, young and old. She would smile, advise, and stress the importance of prayer, often reciting entire verses by heart from the Bible.

After moving to aged care, new friendships were made, particularly with staff, many of

whom came from refugee backgrounds. They were all given signed copies of her books until none were left.

Aged 90, Luba commenced an artistic career, painting hundreds of naive paintings depicting scenes from her life. She continued to paint until her eyesight completely failed her, only recently.

Luba Wrobel Goldberg passed away peacefully on May 18, 2022.

A rare soul who touched so many lives;
Who continues to touch us;
A fighter till the end;
A Hero, Our Hero..

This is an edited excerpt of a eulogy given at Luba's funeral by Fiona Korman and Sharon Roseman, two of Luba's six grandchildren.