



## Merilynn S. Kaplin

November 11, 1928 - May 20, 2016

Merilynn Slesh Kaplin born November 11, 1928, passed away on May 20, 2016. Lover of people, animals, and life, ended her difficult struggle here on earth and journeyed onto the next adventure. She was surrounded by family and friends and the compassionate caregivers at Zusman Hospice and the Cottage. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Thomas L. Kaplin, children Jamie (Albuquerque), Trip (San Francisco), Adam (Columbus), her beloved sister Louise Slesh Higgins (La Paz) niece Robyn Higgins Randle (Newport Beach), Kevin and Carrie Neustadt (Los Angeles), John and Romi Neustadt (San Diego). Merilynn is preceded in death by her parents David and Belle Slesh, sister Carole Slesh Neustadt, and niece Jody Ann Higgins. Merilynn was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but spent most of her childhood in Toledo, Ohio. Her parents were able to give each of their daughters one year of college at The Ohio State University. She loved that year, but her real education began when she moved, in the 50's, to Chicago. She shared an apartment with friends and worked and played and developed a love of art and culture and all that life has to offer. After raising her kids, she shared a small art consulting business with a friend. She was able to further cultivate her natural eye for art. She was passionate about conservation and protection of animals, art, Africa, books, politics, friends, and Nantucket. She loved connecting with people. Nobody was a stranger. The last few years have been difficult for her to navigate, and we had to let her go. She has moved onto her next assignment, but will be terribly missed by those of us that love her beyond words. "Mom, we love you to the moon and back" Memorial services will be held at 11AM on Monday, May 23 at Temple Israel, 5419 E. Broad St. Shiva will be observed at 1 Miranova Place on Monday from 5:30PM - 7:30PM. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in her memory to celebrate her life and the joy and the spunk she brought to all those she touched. Capital Area Humane, Wexner Heritage Village, the Alzheimer's Association, or any organization of your choosing. We extend our love and gratitude to all of those that helped Mom along this road.

# Events

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**MAY**   **Memorial Service**                      11:00AM

**23**

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Temple Israel

5419 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH, US

# Comments

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“ I am sorry to hear of the recent loss of Merilynn. I hope that she is now at peace. She was always good to me and my children and a joy to be around. My best to all of the Kaplins. Cathy Hughes Johnston

**Cathy Johnston** - May 27, 2016 at 02:13 PM

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“ Please accept my most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. May God comfort you and your family and give you peace.

Dave Closs

**Dave Closs** - May 24, 2016 at 09:47 AM

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“ Tom so sorry to hear about Marilynn. We shared a lot of good times and will miss her. My best to you and your family.  
Bruce

**Bruce Allen** - May 23, 2016 at 06:46 PM

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“ Tommy, Jamie and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Merilynn's passing. Mom loved her very much and I did too. She will be missed. I am also sorry that I did not hear about the Memorial Service until today. My prayers are with you all.  
Love, Patty Strouss Malin, and daughter Ashley

**Patty Strouss Malin** - May 23, 2016 at 06:20 PM

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“ Growing up, I considered Merilynn my second mother and absolutely adored her. She would let me have sleepovers at her house when I was in elementary and middle school and these sleepovers remain some of my happiest childhood memories. She invited me to live with her one summer on Nantucket which eventually led me to a job on Cape Cod. I owe so much of who I am today to Merilynn; I will never forget her love and generosity.

**Rachel Moots DeVito** - May 23, 2016 at 07:31 AM



“ I will never forget your mom's spunk, smile and style. What a beauty, indeed. She was such a dear friend to my mom, too. Sending loads of love and strength to carry you through the days ahead. Much love,  
Sarah, Ty and Evie Sullivan

**sarah slattery** - June 02, 2016 at 07:33 PM

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“ May her memory always be a blessing and the Kaplan family be comforted. The Zacks Family  
Ben, Mary Beth  
Randy  
Sally & Marc Dunn

**Benjamin Zacks** - May 22, 2016 at 09:14 PM

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“ Hi Jamie  
Just wanted to offer condolences to you and your family.  
Dan Hollern  
I painted your house on Erie ,and did work for your mom and dad in the village.  
god bless  
dhollern@sbcglobal.net



**dan hollern** - May 22, 2016 at 07:54 PM

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“ Dear Tommy and family,  
I send my sympathy and condolences to you all.

Merilynn suggested to me, sometime in the '80's, the purchase of Ben Shahn woven Menorah presently hanging in the lobby of the Columbus Jewish Community Center. It is a constant reminder of our mission to be a light unto the nations. Certainly Merilynn's light shone brightly on all of us who knew her.

Sincerely,  
Lenny Schottenstein

lenore schottenstein - May 22, 2016 at 07:44 PM

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“ Merilynn was a wonderful person and dear friend of Mom and Dad's ... our deepest sympathies and condolences to all of the Kaplins ... she will always be with us ... love  
David Bowman

David Bowman - May 22, 2016 at 09:20 AM



“ Merilynn was a kind, dynamic, warm and wonderful woman. She contributed so much to all that she loved; family, friends, art, animals and much, much more. Our condolences to the Kaplin family. Love, Karel and Jerry Kroos

**Karel Kroos** - May 23, 2016 at 05:17 PM