



Iris Myrna Cornell

JUN 2, 1935 - MAR 4, 2016



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Iris Cornell of Miami Beach, FL, formerly of Livingston Manor, NY

The world lost a unique, beautiful and vivacious woman today. On March 4, 2016, Iris Myrna Jacobs Cornell passed from our sight, but never from our hearts. She was born June 2, 1935 in Livingston Manor, NY, as the second child of parents Hyman and Sophie Jacobs. She gathered friends of all ages, from all walks of life and kept them for a lifetime. Her many friends are united in saying she was not only kind but charismatic. When she walked into a room, she owned it. Iris was glamorous and loved fashion and shopping.

Iris married Howard Wincele and had two children, Wendy and Eric. They were her pride and joy and she taught them to be independent and hardworking. She would not tolerate discrimination against anyone, cruelty or neglect of animals, and often admonished her children with “You know what’s right and you know what’s wrong”.

For many years she worked in the Sullivan County area as an electrologist. She loved to dance and when she married her second husband, Norton Hyman, they not only gave dance lessons, but performed on stage and on cruise ships. After Iris and Norton divorced, she met the love of her life, Don Cornell. Don was a professional big band singer and Iris immediately took charge of revitalizing his career. This opportunity was a perfect outlet for Iris’ intense drive and focus and she put all her energy into managing Don’s career. They relocated to Miami Beach and under their music label, Iris Recording, produced several new CD’s of Don’s songs. Don was devoted to her and closed every show by singing “You are the Wind Beneath my Wings” and dedicating it to his beautiful wife. She never missed a performance. They traveled the world together and made friends at every port.

Along with the many wonderful things that happened in her life, there was also deep sorrow. She lost her beloved father and cherished brother Steve within a few years of each other. Later, when she lost Don she surrounded herself with her many wonderful friends for support. Iris always



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included not only her mother Sophie in everything, but also other friends who were widowed or alone. It was very important to her that no one be left out.

Iris was a wonderful caregiver and companion to her mother Sophie. So, when first Sophie, and then her sister Edna passed, a little bit of light went out for Iris. As Iris' own health declined, she had the opportunity to make even more new friends with the younger women who were her caregivers. It is a testament to her kindness and vitality that they truly came to love and admire Iris and often asked her advice about their own love lives!

Her family remembers Iris for not only her good heart, but for her strength, commanding personality and tendency to be brutally honest. Iris was The Boss. From a young age, Iris knew what she wanted and went after it with a single minded focus. This trait was tempered by her generosity - of material things, yes, but also her generosity of spirit. Iris was the life of the party and to her, life was a party. She recently gave some advice to her granddaughter, "Live life to the fullest and don't pay attention to how much you spend now. Life is about living, so do that." Thanks for showing us how, Iris.

Iris Cornell is survived by her loving and dutiful children, Wendy Frank (Dr. Harvey Frank); Eric Wincele (Colleene Wincele); grandchildren Tucker Wincele, Carey Frank, Tate Wincele, and Rachel Frank; niece Jill Jacobs Brack (Reggie Brack); and nephew Adam Jacobs (Nicole Jacobs).

Memorial services will be held at Beth David Memorial Gardens in Hollywood, Florida. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St Jude Children's Hospital.



Events

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Cemetery Details

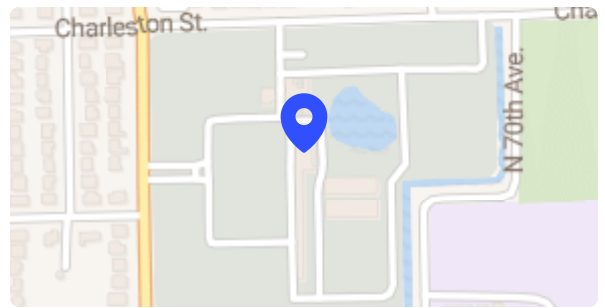


Beth David Memorial Gardens

3201 North 72nd Avenue, Hollywood FL 33024



(305) 574-9443





Tribute Wall

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JL

Jim And Louise Labadini posted:

We met Don and Iris years ago aboard a cruise ship. They were the most wonderful couple. My wife and I met Don and exchanged stories with each other. Then we met Iris and Don asked us to tell Iris all the stories we shared with Don (especially the one about my mother making Sunday sauce and listening to Don on the phonograph). Iris thought the stories were wonderful and we quickly became friends as though we were friends since childhood. Love....

January 24 at 6:42 PM

JH

Joy Hanni posted:

I just now learned of Iris' passing. A lovely lady. We used to have nice phone chats & I took a cruise with her & some of her friends one time, such fun people. Iris will never be forgotten.

April 27 at 11:35 AM

JN

Joe Nardone posted:

A little late, but I thought about Iris and googled....and found obituary....very sorry and my condolences....I promoted Don in Wilkes Barre, Pa. in the 90's and did the contracting with Iris...A great and sharp gal ! I met Iris when Don was in town for the two times I promoted him and met a wonderful person that I will never forget...Joe Nardone, Sr.

April 11 at 7:14 AM

DB

Donett Holder Bryan January 14 at 1:15 PM

From: Donett (Dee) and LeeAnn. I used to be one off her caregiver for four years (4). She was very loving, kind also fun to be around. She treated me and my daughter like part of the family. She was so amazing. We missed you :rose::rose::rose:

NM

N.Craig Martin posted:

I met Iris 12 years ago,when I went on a cruise that Don was to,perform on however got suddenly ill.We became very close friends as I purchased numerous CD's of Don as he was my favorite singer .Seen him perform at the NY Paramount.Also had the opportunity to have dinner with Iris & her friend Shirley in upstate NY,Iris had an elderly man she was helping & I bought a 1998 Nissan Altima which is still running perfectly.I will keep her in my thoughts & prayers.A great women & will be sadly missed.N.Craig Martin Fort Pierce Florida

June 6 at 12:26 PM



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BC

Barbara Lee Cohen posted:

There is a great disadvantage - living in a different city from a very very special friend. So I missed speaking with Iris the last two months - and therefore missed her return to the hospital and the series of health challenges that culminated in her departure to her next "party place" somewhere in the world beyond. As Goethe once stated... "life is but the childhood of our immortality"... It was certainly what happened to Iris as I know she is somewhere in a fabulous place, coordinating activities for all those she loved who had already moved on... and the many angels who are probably captivated by her charm, smile, gregarious nature and great kindness. We became friends in the early 1970's - sharing business commitments for Don, and then along the way, cemented an incredible friendship... with bonds that remained strong all these years. Although I got to spend lots of time with Iris up through the early 2000, like many things in life, we didn't get to see as much of one another these last ten years. But we spoke often - and distance did not hinder the great feelings we shared. We knew each other well and we really had a phenomenal mutual admiration society between us. We were in many ways "sisters" by value and beliefs and our love for show biz and everything related to it. We also shared love of people, integrity, equality, and the concern for the betterment of all mankind. It was a joy and a great privilege to know Iris, and I am at a loss right now as to how I will get by without checking in with her. I can only say to her family... she was absolutely a one of a kind lady - and a spirited soul who will live with me all the rest of my life... and most likely, beyond. And how fortunate you all are, as she loved you all deeply. She leaves a special legacy because you are such a great family. My deepest thoughts go to all of you every day. May your heartache soon fade leaving only the joys of the warmth and happiness you all shared. With loving regards, Barbara Lee Cohen (president of the Irish Cornell Chicago Fan Club)

March 12 at 6:15 AM

RB

Roni Buck posted:

Dear Wendy, Eric and Family; We were so saddened to hear of Iris' passing. I remember spending so much time as a young child and teenager at your home. How kind and funny your mom was. She was beautiful inside and out. One special memory I have is when the 3 of us were little she took us to Coney Island for the day. I don't remember if Iris or if Aunt Sophie made the tuna sandwiches she packed for lunch that day, but they were the best tasting ever! We will always remember her lovely and dynamic spirit. Love, Roni & Stephan Buck

March 13 at 5:15 AM

LC

Leslie & Chris posted:

Well done & God's speed - The Carhart Family

March 12 at 6:15 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Iris by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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