



Mrs. Rita Blair Temelcoff

April 3, 2016

No obituary found for this tribute.

Tribute Wall

NF

“ My mother, Norma Ferguson, often spoke of Rita as a friend and, as my Mom was a pretty passionate bridge player and also loved to laugh, I am sure they shared both the laughter and some great rounds of bridge together .Although my Mom was one of Rita's friends who predeceased her in 2008, I remember her speaking fondly of Rita, and on her behalf I extend my sincere condolences to Catherine, family and friends.

I wish you happy memories of Rita, your Mom, and somewhere, I hope the the bridge games continue!

*Fond wishes,
Nancy Ferguson*

Nancy Ferguson - April 10, 2016 at 02:36 PM

CT

Thank You, Nancy. I always loved seeing your mother, Ginger. She was gentle, kind and a pleasure to be around. I know our mothers and the rest of their bridge crew were not only very good players but they had a lot of fun at it! I remember the peals of laughter filtering up from the living room late into the night during marathon card games.

*Fond Regards,
Kitty T.*

Catherine Temelcoff - April 11, 2016 at 06:12 PM

AG

“ Rita was a superior teacher who knew how to motivate her students. In grade 13 days we had her xmas test preparing for provincial finals exam that would affect our university plans. The marks she announced to the entire class were so poor but delivered brilliantly that all of us we scared to death. It worked perfectly. Most of us did well and acheived post secondary degrees. She was definetly a favourite teacher of mine atFHCI. Never to be forgotten.

Alby Garbe - April 09, 2016 at 09:35 AM

CT

I really appreciate hearing the recollections of my mother's students, Albe. Your name is very familiar to me and my mother only mentioned those that had made a lasting impression on her and who she found interesting. She never lost that "brilliant delivery" you mention! Thanks

Catherine Temelcoff - April 11, 2016 at 07:06 PM

SR

“ *Rita was the best and most memorable high school teacher I ever had. To this day I remember her telling a classmate: " I appreciate originality, but not in spelling and punctuation".*

I later years Rita and I were neighbours in Rosedale, and I visited her.

RIP

Sheldon Robins

Sheldon Robins - April 08, 2016 at 10:42 AM

CT

Thanks Sheldon. My mother said many pithy and memorable things that will stick with me forever and she taught me everything I know about English grammar, literature, effective letter and essay writing. we laughed a lot too.

*Regards,
Kitty Temelcoff*

Catherine Temelcoff - April 11, 2016 at 06:18 PM

SK

“ Many memories flowed when I read of her passing. She was a demanding teacher. She got away with calling me "stupid" when I was in her grade 11 class at FHCI (that wouldn't happen these days) but she did teach me grammar most effectively. She was also far ahead of the game. We studied "Lord of the Flies" instead of Macbeth about two years after the book came out. We always remember those teachers who changed our life and she was definitely one of those.

Stephen Kurtz - April 08, 2016 at 08:15 AM

CT

Thanks Stephen. My mother and I were very close but I know what you mean when you most fittingly use the word "demanding". I felt distinctly uneasy disappointing her which, I'm sure, her students felt acutely! She loved good books and so do I, thanks entirely to her taste and enthusiasm. We laughed a lot too.

Catherine Temelcoff - April 11, 2016 at 06:33 PM

ML

“ Rita changed my life. She was my teacher at FHCI in the 1950s. She deeply touched me with her love of books, theatre etc. After becoming a lawyer, I evolved in to a literary agent and executive producer, always crediting her as my inspiration. Michael A. Levine

Michael A Levine - April 07, 2016 at 11:00 PM

CT

Thanks Michael. We met at the "Free Times" when Peter K. was performing one evening. I know my mother was quietly very flattered and pleased that you and many of your classmates kept in touch over the many years that have passed since high school. Hearing from you gave her a great deal of joy.

Cheers,
Kitty Temelcoff

Catherine Temelcoff - April 11, 2016 at 06:41 PM

GK

“ So sorry to hear about the passing of "Mrs. Temelcoff". She was my grade 13 English teacher at Forest Hill in 1965. She was without question my favorite high school teacher. She always demanded your best effort. You could tell she loved teaching English, and I credit her for my lifetime love of reading books. My condolences to her family. Good-bye, Mrs. Temelcoff.

Yours truly

Gary Kuchar

Gary Kuchar - April 07, 2016 at 12:11 PM

SS

“ Dear Kitty,

I am so very sorry to hear of Rita's passing. Your mother was such an important part of my childhood for many years and, although it has been fifteen years since we last met, I still think of her fondly and often. I'm sure many others whom she touched over the years do as well. She was a wonderful person. Hawthorne Ave has lost its most refined resident.

My sincerest condolences,

Stephanie

Stephanie Shorter - April 07, 2016 at 11:43 AM

HR

“ Dear Kitty:

I remember Rita so well, and you also, when she and I served on the same coffee team at St. Paul's, Bloor Street, under the guidance of Nancy Hetherington. We had so much fun, and she was so elegant. We continued to meet when she was walking her current dog through Craighleigh Gardens and Rosedale. She had a remarkable personality. She was very much a part of my years in Rosedale.

I offer you my sincere condolences.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Robinson

Helen Robinson - April 07, 2016 at 08:44 AM

CT

Thank you for your kind remembrances of my mother, Helen. That was a great coffee team and we had fun together. I remember you, Nancy and Marjorie very fondly and loved my official job as cream and sugar replenisher!
Kitty T.

Catherine Temelcoff - April 11, 2016 at 05:58 PM

VS

“ Dear Catherine,

I have wonderful memories of your mother when I was a student at Bathurst Heights Collegiate. The photograph in the newspaper, in which she looked just as I remembered her from those days, kindled many reminiscences. I entered Bathurst Heights in grade nine; your mother was my home form teacher. She was the epitome of culture, elegance, class, manners, and fashion for me and, I expect, for all of us. I still see her at the head of the class in an elegant sweater and skirt with a magnificent copper pin of a scimitar. She was a good teacher as well, stimulating our interest in literature..

I had the lead in the play in grade ten – GB Shaw’s “Arms and the Man”. Your mother directed. It was a great experience. She and I also met on a few occasions at the gatherings of mutual friends, Ernst and Sheila Wengler. We always had a lovely chat.

Your mother was a fine person. I offer my sincere condolences on her death.

Yours truly,

*Valerie Siren Schatzker
vjs@schatzker.com*

Valerie Schatzker - April 06, 2016 at 05:42 PM