

Rhoda L. Flaxman



Dr. Rhoda Leven Flaxman passed away on March 10th at her home in Charlotte, North Carolina. She leaves behind her best friend and husband, Dr. B. Allen Flaxman; her children Cynthia (Ted), David (Alicia), and Jessica (Jake); and 11 grandchildren. Her beloved daughter Lisa (Jonathan)

Rhoda was born in New York, the oldest daughter of Pauline and Irving Leven. The family moved to Providence when Rhoda was 12. After graduating from Classical High School, Rhoda earned a BA in English from Bryn Mawr College and a Masters in Teaching from Teachers College at Columbia University. Rhoda ultimately completed her doctorate at Brown University and went on to teach English literature at Wheaton College and Brown University. While at Brown, Rhoda also ran the Writing Fellows Program, a peer-tutoring program matching undergraduate writing tutors with professors.

Rhoda enjoyed a busy and connected life in Providence for many years before retiring to Cape Cod, where she founded the Open University. A talented soprano singer, she sang for over forty years with the Providence Singers and for seven years served as chair of the Board of Trustees at The Wheeler School. A theater lover, Rhoda also served on the Board at Trinity Repertory Theater and the Second Story Theater.

Rhoda will be laid to rest in Wellfleet, MA, where there will be a celebration of her life this summer.

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