

PJ 1-29-2001

OBITUARIES

POTTER-GOLDSTEIN
LILLIAN

Lillian Potter Goldstein, 87, dies; anti-gun activist, former teacher

PROVIDENCE — Lillian Potter Goldstein, 87, of 355 Blackstone Blvd., a former biology teacher, and a noted proponent of gun control after her first husband was fatally shot, died Saturday at home.



She was the wife of Hyman Goldstein, and the late Dr. Charles Potter. She and Mr. Goldstein were married for 25 years. Born in Providence, a daughter of the late David Solomon and Goldie (Kaplan) Kelman, she lived in Providence most of her life.

She taught biology at Central and Mount Pleasant High Schools, and the Lincoln School for more than 30 years, before retiring. In 1969, she received an award from the Bausch & Lomb Corp. honoring her as the Outstanding Biology Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Goldstein became an avid supporter of gun control after her first husband, Doctor Potter, was killed by an escaped convict trying to steal his car outside the former Lying-In Hospital in 1970.

She organized and led Handgun Alert, and lobbied on the state and national levels, appearing on televi-

sion, before Congress and with numerous civic groups. Her efforts led to the passing of the first mandatory pre-purchase training law for would-be gun owners.

She was an ardent supporter of Planned Parenthood, and in 1984 helped to raise funds to name the new home of the organization the Dr. Charles Potter Memorial.

She was a longtime member of the League of Women Voters, spearheading voter-education drives.

She was a member of the Council of Jewish Women and was honored for her community service in 1960. She helped plan the drive to help pay for a planetarium in the Roger Williams Park Museum.

She was a member of the Temple Beth-El. She was a graduate of Pembroke College, Class of 1933, and received her master's degree from Brown University in 1936.

Besides her husband, she leaves two daughters, Eleanor Potter of Baltimore and Betsey Potter of Los Angeles. She was the mother of the late Deborah Brener, and sister of the late Jack and Fred Kelman.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 10 a.m. in Temple Beth-El. Burial will be in Sharon (Mass.) Memorial Park.

GOLDSTEIN, Lillian Potter (Kelman)

January 27, 2001. Beloved wife of Dr. Hyman Goldstein and the late Dr. Charles Potter. Residence: 355 Blackstone Blvd., Providence. Dear mother of Eleanor Potter, Baltimore, MD, Betsy Potter, Los Angeles, CA and the late Deborah Brener. Loving sister of the late Jack and Fred Kelman. Funeral Service will be held 10 AM Tuesday at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence. Relatives and friends are invited. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to VNA Hospice, 157 Waterman St., Providence, RI 02906 or The Lillian Potter Fund in Support of Science Education at Lincoln School, 301 Butler Ave., Providence, RI 02906 or the Dr. Charles and Lillian Potter Education Program at Planned Parenthood of RI, 111 Point St., Providence, RI 02903. Memorial observance at Laurelmead Wednesday 7-9 PM. The Family was assisted with the arrangements by SUGARMAN-SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL.