ISENBERG, Dorothy

J-B 12-6-1997

Dorothy Isenberg dies; philanthropist, civic leader

PROVIDENCE — Dorothy Isenberg, of 45 Emeline St., co-founder with her late husband of Chex Finer Foods Inc., died Thursday at home. She was the wife of the late Jay Isenberg.

Born in Russia, a daughter of the late Aaron and Minicha Sherman, she had lived in Providence for most of her life.

Mrs. Isenberg was president and founder of the Grandparents' Guild Trust, an organization that raised $120,000 to benefit the Children's Museum of Rhode Island. She was the first woman recipient of the Key to the City of Pawtucket.

Mrs. Isenberg was chairwoman of the committee to bring the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra to Providence. She was an active participant of the American Funds for Israel Institutions and was honored for her work. She was founder of the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island. She was honorary director of the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra and founder of the Friends Society of the Rhode Island Civic Chorale and Orchestra. She was an honorary board member of the Civic Chorale.

Mrs. Isenberg was a founder of "First Night" of Rhode Island. She was also founder of the Ruth Tripp Scholarship Fund at the Univeristy of Rhode Island and founder of the Elmwood E. Leonard Jr. Scholarship Fund at Brown University.

She was a board member of the Trinity Art Center and the Rhode Island Festival Ballet.

Mrs. Isenberg was a life member of the Jewish Home for the Aged, the Hadassah, the Pioneer Women, the Women's Association of Miriam Hospital, the Jewish Historical Society and the Women's Association of Brandeis Univeristy.

She received an annual award for Outstanding Achievement from the United Arts Fund. She was a corporate member of the Providence Public Library and a board member of the Rhode Island Zoological Society. She was chairwoman of the Hillel Foundation at Brown University. Mrs. Isenberg was chairwoman of General Solicitations of the first United Fund Drive in 1956.

She was a member of Temple Beth-El.

She leaves a son, David C. Isenberg of Providence; a daughter, Yalta Joslin of Brookline, Mass.; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Belle Tichman, Matthew and Samuel Sherman.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 2 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, Orchard Avenue, Providence. Burial will be in Lincoln Park Cemetery, Post Road, Warwick.

ISENBERG, Dorothy (Sherman)

December 4, 1997. Beloved wife of the late Jay Isenberg. Residence 45 Emeline St. Dear mother of David C. Isenberg, Providence and Yalta Joslin, Brookline MA. Dear sister of the late Belle Tichman, Matthew and Samuel Sherman. Devoted grandmother of Michael, Jeremy and Rachel Isenberg; Benjamin Joslin, Dobritte Norris. Devoted great-grandmother of Chloe, Jacob and Elias. Funeral service 2PM Sunday at TEMPLE BETH-EL Orchard at Butler Avenues. Relatives and friends are invited. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Temple Beth-El or your favorite charity. Memorial observance at the home of Mr. & Mrs. David C. Isenberg, 42 Eames St., Sunday 7-9PM; Monday through Thursday 2-4; 7-9PM. Arrangements by MOUNT SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL.