EB 5-7-81

Roberta Joslin dies; artist and sculptress active in civic affairs

BRISTOL — Mrs. Roberta Joslin, 60, of 4 Mulberry Rd., an artist and sculptress, died yesterday in Massachusetts General Hospital, where she was admitted the day before. She was the wife of retired Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Alfred H. Joslin.

She was a former trustee of Bradley Hospital, Miriam Hospital, and Family Service. She was a past president of the Miriam Hospital Women's Association, the Providence Volunteer Bureau, and the Lincoln School Foundation.



Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Max Grant. Her mother, Miriam (Gardner) Sapinsley lives in Providence. After graduation from the Lincoln School, she spent a year each at Vassar and Pembroke before her marriage.

Mrs. Joslin returned to Pembroke in the late 1960s at the peak of the turmoil over Vietnam, Cambodia and Kent State. At the time, her husband was a vice chancellor of the Brown Corporation. She said later that becoming involved with young people with passionate political consciences "radicalized me," and this was evident in much of her work when she launched her art career.

During her second time around at Pembroke her flair for creative art was encouraged and developed. After her 1970 graduation, magna cum laude, she opened a studio in her home, and joined ANYART, the nonprofit contemporary arts organization then in Warren.

Her work was exhibited in the Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence Art Club, and Ladies of the Faculty art shows at Brown in Providence, as well as the Village Gallery, Barrington, the Bristol Art Museum and Hera, the Women's Cooperative Art Gallery, Wakefield.

Her son, Andrew J. Joslin, a lawyer, died unexpectedly at 31 in 1976, and Mrs. Joslin considered "Phoenix," the first piece she did after his death, and "Affirmation for Andy," her two best works. His wife, now Mrs. Margaret E. Poirier, lives in Warwick.

Besides her husband and mother she leaves a daughter, Mrs. Susan Leader of New York City; a brother, Gardner L. Grant of New Rochelle, N.Y., and four grandchildren.

Her funeral service will be held tomorrow at 11 a.m. in Temple Beth-El,

JOSLIN, ROBERTA

JOSLIN, Roberta G.

On May 6, 1981. Wife of Alfred H. Joslin. Residence: 4 Mulberry Rd., Bristol. Mother of Mrs. Susan A. Leader, N.Y.C.; and Mrs. Betsy Poirier, Warwick. Daughter of Mrs. Miriam G. Sapinsley, Providence; and the late Max L. Grant. Sister of Gardner L. Grant, New Rochelle, N.Y. Grandmother of four grandchildren. Funeral Services 11 a.m. Friday at Temple Beth-El, Orchard at Butler Aves. Relatives and friends are invited. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Andy Joslin Fund, Brown University. Calling Hours at her late residence Saturday 7-9 p.m.