PROVIDENCE

KWASHA, CHARLOTTE "LOTTIE", 104, passed away on March 20, 2013. A lifelong resident of Providence, she was the sister of the late Hattie Berman, H. Charles "Chick" Kwasha, L. James Kwasha and Florence Zacks. An adored aunt, she was mentor to 3 generations of beloved nieces and nephews.



During WWII, Charlotte was a member of the Women's Army Corp. serving in the South Pacific with Gen. McArthur. After the war she worked for 36 years as the National Service Officer for the Jewish War Veterans in the Providence Office, the first woman to receive such accreditation.

She remained active in veteran's affairs with numerous speaking engagements and fundraising. She had been actively involved in establishing the Women's Memorial Monument at the Veteran's Cemetery in Exeter. She was a member of Temple Beth-El.

A graveside service will be held at Sons of Israel and David Cemetery, Reservoir Ave., Providence, at 2:00 PM on Sunday, March 24, 2013. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Jewish War Veterans or the charity of your choice. The family will receive friends at the Providence Marriot Hotel following the service.

KWASHA, CHARLOTTE

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PASSAGES

WAC veteran of WWII, active in memorial effort

Charlotte "Lottie" Kwasha enlisted in Women's Army Corps and served in Pacific

By THOMAS J. MORGAN
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

PROVIDENCE — Charlotte "Lottie" Kwasha, 104, a veteran of the Women's Army Corps during World War II and one of the first women to serve in that capacity, died Wednesday.

Kwasha was one of the few women veterans of that war still living in Rhode Island.

In a 2001 interview, she told of how she was recruited.

It was September 1942 and war was raging in Europe and the Pacific, but it hadn't yet touched the life of Kwasha, a petite, fun-loving clerk in the tax assessor's office at Providence City Hall. She was walking back to work after lunch with girlfriends when a young

Providence.

Kwasha's military adventures took her to a dusty cavalry post in Des Moines, Iowa, where she once shared a cup of coffee with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, and to the jungles of New Guinea in the Pacific and to the Philippines under the command of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

She lost 39 pounds during her tour of duty, dropping to 87 pounds by the time she came home in October 1945.

Kwasha recently told a story about how her jeep driver was the right-hand man to MacArthur. One day, she watched as MacArthur got out of a landing craft and waded ashore. She remembered how wet his pant legs got.

The general was on his way to a microphone set up on the beach, where he made his "I have returned" speech to the Filipino people.

After the war, Kwasha