MAYM-DAVIAU, Devioune J.
7-15-2016

Devioune J. Mayim-Daviau, 57

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Devioune J. Mayim-Daviau died July 15. Born in Fort Benning, Ga., she was the daughter of Ronald and the late Janet Daviau.

Devioune, an entrepreneur having owned multiple businesses in the past, was the proud owner of the award-winning Mister Sister Erotica on Wickenden Street in Providence. For



her unwavering community support and generous spirit, she received the R.I. Spirit of Pride Award in 2012.

She is survived by her father Ronald Jospeh Daviau Sr.; sister Diane Marie Grano and her husband Gregorio; brothers Ronald Joseph Daviau Jr., David William Daviau, and Michael Joseph Daviau; nieces and nephews Joseph, Jainine, Joshua, Heather, Mark, Kailie and Mackenzie.

Devioune was passionate about giving back to the LGBTQ community she loved and felt a part of.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Rhode Island Pride, P.O. Box 1082, Providence, R.I. 02901; AIDS Care Ocean State, 18 Parkis Ave., Providence, R.I. 02907 and/or AIDS Project R.I. c/o Family Service of Rhode Island, P.O. Box 6688, Providence, R.I. 02940.

Passages: Devioune Mayim-Daviau, Sept. 14, 1958 - July 14, 2016

by Rodney Davis

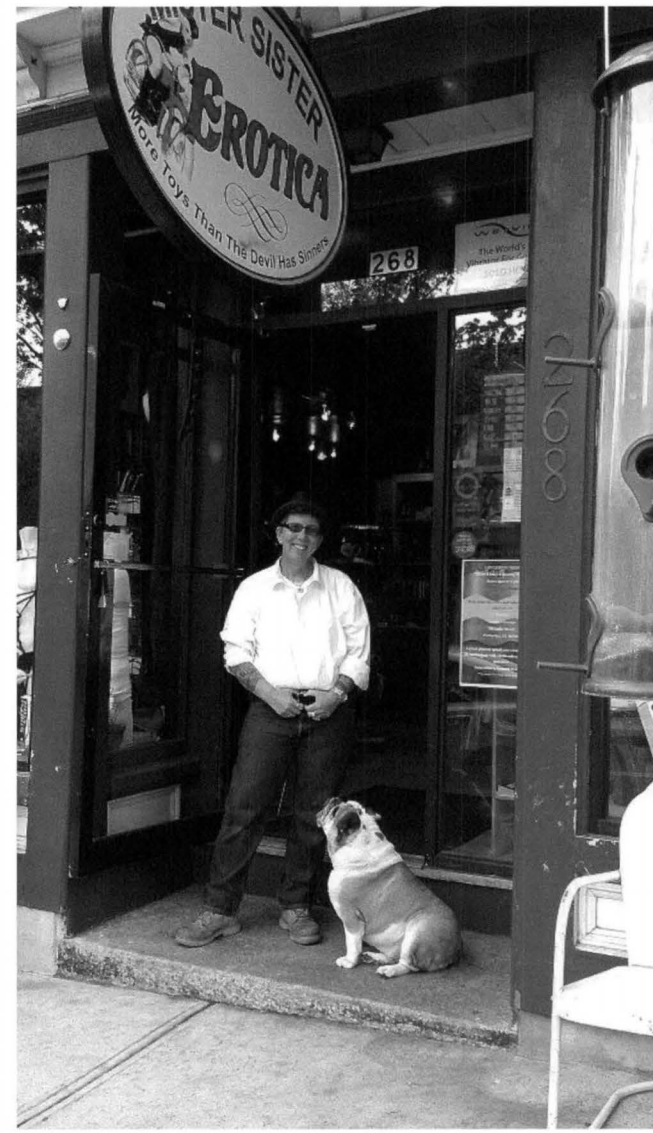
If you were to look up the Yiddish word "mensch" on Wikipedia it would define the term by quoting Leo Rosten: "... someone to admire and emulate, someone of noble character. The key to being 'a real mensch' is nothing less than character, rectitude, dignity, a sense of what is right, responsible, decorous." We lost a mensch in Devioune Mayim-Daviau, and she would be tickled pink, or rather rainbow, that I would use this Yiddish term, as she was so proud of her Jewish heritage.

In 2012 Rhode Island Pride awarded Devioune the Spirit of Pride Award. She was so excited and so honored to have received it. I wrote the following in the press release about this gentle yet powerful soul: "RI Pride wishes to recognize an individual whose generous spirit is an example for all to follow. The Spirit of Pride Award is presented to Devioune Mayim-Daviau of Mister Sister. Devioune is a local entrepreneur and small business owner who continues to give and support the community she loves. Whether it's sponsoring AIDS Care's Gay Bingo, Pride fundraisers, or community projects, Devioune always says, 'How can I help?' The doors to her store on Wickenden Street are always open to members of the community with her sex-positive approach to intimacy. When it comes to sex education, there isn't a question Devioune won't answer. It's done without awkwardness or embarrassment. We are pleased and honored to present the Spirit of Pride Award to her."

We will truly miss you all the days of our lives and are grateful for your presence on this earth. You have taught us well; may we continue to practice it.

Devioune Mayim-Daviau Z"L (May her memory be a blessing.) ▼





Left: Devioune receives 2012 Spirit of Pride Award, poses with Kitty Litter at RI Pride Honors.

Above: Devioune at her shop, Mister Sister, with her beloved Raizel.

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