SILBERTHAU, LORRAINE

SILBERTHAU, LORRAINE HARRIET (COHEN), of Providence, died December 25, 2012. She was the daughter of the late Philip and Kate (Berman) Cohen and the wife of the late Henry David Silberthau. Born in Chicago, Illinois on October 4, 1925, Lorraine Harriet Cohen Silberthau moved to Rhode Island in 1939 with her parents and her late siblings, Raymond, Eugene, Harvey and Thelma.



Lorraine graduated from Lincoln School in Providence and from Wellesley College. She married in 1947.

A trailblazer for women in politics and public service, Lorraine played an active role in Democratic campaigns and held major positions in Rhode Island state government, serving as Director of Communications for former Governor J. Joseph Garrahy, Staff Director of the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, Special Assistant for Research and Analysis for former Governor Frank Licht, and researcher at the Legislative Council.

She is survived by her two daughters Paula Silberthau and her husband Jeffrey Teitz and Kathy Silberthau Strom and her husband David, and her four grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in the chapel at Temple Beth El, 70 Orchard Ave., Providence at 10:00 AM on Thursday, December 27th. The family will sit Shiva at her late residence from 2 to 4 p.m. on Friday, December 28th and from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 29th. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Avodah or the Southern Poverty Law Center. For information and condolences, www.SugarmanSinai.com.