



Inez M. Kahn

February 7, 2015

INEZ MARGARET KAHN

Inez Margaret Hanson arrived in Chicago, Illinois on October 30, 1914, the second child and only daughter of Ella and Oscar (OJ) Hanson.

She was beautiful, talented and smart. She loved music and was a vocal soloist, pianist and member of her church choir. She was an athlete, excelling at tennis, basketball, swimming and golf.

She graduated from the Gregg Business College in Chicago and was immediately hired as Executive Secretary for the President of The Prudential Insurance Company. She loved her job, the excitement of the city, the fabulous clothes, and the many who would become her life-long friends.

In 1938, a distinguished lady Inez knew at the Trinity Methodist Church, introduced her to her nephew, a handsome, lanky artist from Kansas - Alvin Kahn. On August 24, 1940, Inez and Alvin were married in that same church.

Their first home was a small apartment where they had their first two children, Valerie Alice and Gregory Alvin. Alvin worked as an Art Director for Zenith Radio, while Inez cared for their two young children.

In 1946, they bought their own home in Maywood and welcomed two more children, Stephen George and Cynthia Lee. The home became family reunion central for parents, sisters and brothers, as well as numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, friends and neighbors. And in 1951 Alvin began recording it all on his new Bell and Howell movie camera.

In 1954, Alvin and Inez must have felt adventurous because they moved the family, along with Inez's parents Ella and Oscar, to Albuquerque, New Mexico for Alvin's new job as Art Director for an engineering company with government/military contracts.

This was an exciting time. The family enjoyed a membership in the Air Force Officer's Club. Inez remained busy with church, bridge, her job as a legal secretary, and creating their beautiful new home among tumbleweeds.

In 1958, the family, along with Ella and Oscar, moved to Los Angeles, finally settling in La Habra. Alvin became a partner in the John van Barneveld Advertising Agency in Santa Ana.

The Kahn house was a busy place. Inez and Alvin finished raising their four children until the last one left home in 1981. Inez worked as Executive Secretary for the Vice President of Alpha Beta Stores.

In the 1970s, Inez and Alvin started an antique business, specializing in dolls, pottery, glassware and clocks.

Inez always believed in serving her community. She was President of the La Habra Women's Club and chaired numerous committees. From 1993 until 2014, she was an active member of PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization), established to support women's education in 1869.

Alvin and Inez were married for 70 years. They had four children, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren. All are living and several are here today.

During the past five years Inez's health failed, but she remained a force to be reckoned with – feisty, sharp, opinionated, generous and loving. But she missed her Alvin and told everyone how much she looked forward to being together again.

On October 30, 2014, Inez celebrated her 100th birthday with over 30 close family members and friends. Her extemporaneous speech was clear, strong and wise: "...we take so much for granted today, but I really, really know that those we love are the important ones... I've had a wonderful life, a wonderful husband, four wonderful and healthy children... I am so grateful."

Rest in peace, Inez Margaret. You made an indelible mark upon the world. You will forever remain in our hearts.

Tribute Wall

VD

“ Dear Family and Friends: We can't believe it's over. Thank you so much to those who have written in the guest book here and those who were able to be at the memorial and following reception/lunch. Mom would have been so pleased and surprised. Maybe I should say I'm sure she was pleased. I do feel her smiling. It's nice. Thank you from our entire family. With love, Valerie

Valerie Dalena - February 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Yes, I will miss my friend.

Linda White - February 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ Years ago I was fortunate to meet Inez through the La Habra Woman's Club. Our friendship grew throughout the years and I am so glad I visited her at Sunnycrest. She was still a lovely hostess, beautiful inside and out. I, as many, will miss her very much.

Flora Carlberg - February 24, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ In 1990 my 90 year old mother passed away; we held a memorial service in Hacienda Heights. My mother lived in Northern California most of her life, and most of her friends were no longer living so I felt bad realizing that few would attend the service. Much to my amazement and gratitude, there in the church sat Inez and Alvin, who had never met her, but if anyone knew what friendship means Inez certainly did. Inez savored life and I feel fortunate to have accompanied her on some "adventures." We went to Las Vegas and bumbled through a bridge tournament, winning through sheer luck. On our bridge playing foray to the Queen Mary, the front desk could not find our cabin reservation. but often difficulties became part of the fun. As a stalwart member of the La Habra Womans Club, she became part of the creative writing group and often had her writings published in their booklets. The PEO enjoyed her energetic presence as well as her superb hostessing abilities. In addition to her sterling virtues, her adoration of children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, their husbands and wives, childrens' in-laws whom she spoke of frequently and in the superlative, she was a warm and caring friend. I count myself blessed to be among her close friends. She had the phenomenal talent to perceive her friends view points, though quite different from her own, to put herself in another's place, then offer reassurance and affection. Inez, a physically small and extremely bright woman had a huge heart.

Mary Dodd - February 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HP

“ It was such a pleasure for me to know Inez. On her 100th birthday she truly inspired me. I shall always remember her delight in living. I shall miss her.

Harriett Proctor - February 18, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Dear Valerie, family and friends of your Mother, Inez Kahn
For A Loved Woman
We would have kept you forever
But that is not life's way
Yet for your sake we know
That death must have its sway
So we no longer commune in physical form
Our communion now of the heart
But if I call your name, your essence is here
So in Truth, we are never apart
Yet, one day, we, too, will travel that road
Through veil so thin between realities
Then we shall meet again face to face
Our love never tarnished by times banalities
So go, dear Mother, upon your journey
To stars and galaxies beautiful and vast
Celestial music and peaceful seas
Until that day, we will meet again, at last.
Sending my most loving thoughts.
Patty
Rev. Patricia Truman

Patty Truman - February 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ What a lady! What a life! She was incredibly beautiful, elegant and gracious up to the end. She was so proud of all of her children and their accomplishments. I can only imagine how much she will be missed by her loved ones! My thoughts are with you all.

Pamla Amos - February 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ To a beautiful lady, that's you, Valerie, who shows the grace, kindness and love of life you learned from your parents. Inez was elegant, kind and welcoming. I never saw her without that beautiful smile. How proud you must be to have called her Mother. Those same attributes were handed down to you and are now being handed down to Alexis; it makes me honored to know you. I will miss your mother's grace and beauty. My love to you all as you say goodbye to Inez's long journey that made so many differences in others' lives.

Mari John - February 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Dear Valerie, it's hard to find the right words for your loss. Unfortunately, I have never met your mother, but looking at you and being blessed to have you as a friend, I can only assume what a great person she had to be. Ety and my thoughts are with you and your family at this sad time Love, Mike

Mike Fuhrmann - February 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ Hello Cousins. How fortunate we have been to have had our mothers with us for 100 years. Their richness of life was extraordinary. As I look back at old Kahn family photos, it reminds me of how proud our grandparents were of their family. Aunt Inez was such a gracious host and always welcoming to my family on our visits. I know you will miss her greatly. I pray that God will give you peace and comfort in the days ahead.

Bill John - February 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Thank you especially for your great contributions to the world. Your light still reaches the earth for the many lives you touched.

Paul Harrell - February 14, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ I'm sorry I never had a chance to meet your beautiful mother, Valerie. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Sending love and big hugs,

Linda Palmer - February 13, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ x

February 13, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ *Thinking of you and yours, Valerie. Love.*

Bethany Gates - February 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Hello friends and family. We hope to see you at our mother's memorial service on February 25, where we celebrate her life and her loves. Valerie, Gregory, Stephen and Cynthia*

February 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM