



Louise Kostka

May 27, 2012

Louise Anna Chiba Kostka, 89, of Chesapeake, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 27, 2012 at Hospice Home at High Point, High Point, North Carolina. She was born in Queens, New York City, New York, a first-generation American daughter of proud Slovak immigrants and was raised in New York City, where she graduated from high school and business college, worked at the famed Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in Manhattan, and later as a young adult moved with her family to Masaryktown, Florida, near Tampa.

On December 26, 1943, she married Second Lieutenant Rudolph Kostka, Jr., United States Army Air Corps, who was finishing his training just prior to his assignment to Eighth Air Force, England, where he flew 33 combat missions over Germany as a B-17G aircraft commander from April to September 1944. The family story is that Mrs. Kostka was somewhat reluctant to marry at that time, knowing her fiancé would soon ship off to some of the most demanding and deadly combat action of World War II, but Lieutenant Kostka convinced his future wife with the simple demand that "it's now or never." After Lieutenant Kostka returned from his wartime service, he and Mrs. Kostka began a family as she accompanied her husband to Gainesville, Florida, where her husband completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Florida under the GI Bill, and then to a succession of domestic and foreign assignments during the course of her husband's Air Force career, culminating in his retirement from the military in 1967 out of Langley Air Force Base,

Virginia. After their service in the military, Mrs. Kostka and her family remained in the Tidewater area, relocating to Chesapeake where her husband began a second career working for the City of Portsmouth Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. They retired a second time in 1988, remaining in Chesapeake .

Mrs. Kostka was predeceased by her husband of 68 years, Lieutenant Colonel Rudolph Kostka, Jr., United States Air Force Ret., who passed away this past January 6, 2012. Mrs. Kostka is survived by her son Donn Kostka of Chesapeake, her daughter Janice Kostka Edwards of Chesapeake, her daughter Chana Kostka Ball of Greensboro, North Carolina, and her grandchildren Katherine Marie Ball and John Russell Ball of Greensboro. Mrs. Kostka was the daughter of the late John Chiba and Mary Chiba of Masaryktown, Florida , and the sister of the late Milan Chiba, of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The family gathered at Loving Funeral Home, 3225 Academy Avenue, Portsmouth on Friday evening June 1st, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a visitation. A memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Paul Roman Catholic Church, 518 High Street, Portsmouth on Saturday, June 2nd, at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be Saturday, August 4, at 1:00 p.m., in Masaryktown Cemetery, Masaryktown, Florida. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Portsmouth Humane Society, 4022 Seaboard Court, Portsmouth, VA 23701 or Hospice Home at High Point, 1803 Westchester Drive, High Point, NC 27262.

Tribute Wall



“ I have the fondest memories of Louise. Fun slumber parties with Janice and her mama. Always so much fun. I could talk to her about anything. I loved your mom, Tootsie. Hugs to you+Chana+Don.##imported-begin##Barbara Craft Gwaltney##imported-end##

June 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers to my dear friend Chana, Her brother Donn, and sister Janice. Heaven is a brighter place now !##imported-begin##Robert L. Rosekrans, Sr.##imported-end##

June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ All I can ever do is smile when I think of my wonderful Godmother/Aunt. She was that incredible mix of pure fun with a side doze of propriety. Although I always thought that if it would have been up to her, joy would have won out every time. She came from a very long line of strong and yes stubborn women but even more so was the passed on legacy of a huge capacity to love. It is what we “Makay” women do best. I had often wished that our ages would have been much closer so that we would have been able to travel together..both having the love of travel in our veins! I will miss her hugs and laughs but no one knows more than I that she is literally always with us. Thank you Krstna Mama for giving me a chance to be in your life.##imported-begin##Helenka Campbell##imported-end##

June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Chana and the Kostka Family,

My heartfelt condolences on your loss. I will always remember your mother as a vibrant and beautiful lady that was always smiling. May you take comfort in the love of your family and friends and know that your mother and father are both smiling down on the wonderful family they created.##imported-begin##Marianne Reidy##imported-end##

May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Chana -

You are a tribute to your Mom, and the celebration of a life well lived. Huzzah!

Sue##imported-begin##Susan Smetana Boysen##imported-end##

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Much love to all of you as Chana, Suzy, Judy and families remember the happy times we shared with you and your mom and dad in Florida and at the the trip to the Rose Parade. Sorry that we can't be there in person but our thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Chana Maennn##imported-end##*

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Chana-

What a tough road it has been for both of your parents and your family. My prayers and thoughts go out to you and your family during this hard time. At least it must be some comfort to know that your parents are together again and not in pain. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

What a history they had together.##imported-begin##Karen and Jack Vonier Perkins##imported-end##

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Janice and Family,
May God Bless You at this time.##imported-begin##Marsha Haley##imported-end##*

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My sincere sympathies to you and your family Janice.
xoxoxo##imported-begin##Jane Jack##imported-end##*

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Linda Palmer##imported-end##*

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *THINKING OF YOU , CHANA. SENDING PEACE, LOVE AND HUGS.##imported-begin##CINDY KERNS##imported-end##*

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My most heartfelt condolences, Chana. You made your parents proud, and now they rejoice together. Be well, my friend.*##imported-begin##Michael Marushia##imported-end##

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Chana and family,*

I am so sorry for the loss of your Mother. It has been a long hard year for you all. Keep their memories fresh in your heart, and they will always be just a thought away.##imported-begin##Jennifer Groce##imported-end##

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Chana, Janice & Donn,*

Though we didn't have a chance to spend much time with your mom, we knew what a wonderful person she was and how dearly she will be missed. I am so glad I was able to pray with her recently and say goodbye.

We love you.

John & Anita##imported-begin##John & Anita Monroe##imported-end##

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Chana,

I am so sorry for you loss. I did not realize you just lost your dad as well. Our thoughts and prayers and with you and your family. I was just telling Patrick that as we get older there just seems to be a greater amount of losses. We are lucky that many of them have lived long and happy lives like your parents.##imported-begin##Cathy Loew Lockwood##imported-end##

May 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM