

DEATH

CHANA RUBIN

24.3.1924 – 23.9.2020

Daughter of **Leah** (dec) and **Shlomo** (dec)Sister of **Mullie** (dec), **Molly** (dec) and **Shimon** (Israel)Life long friend of **David** (dec)Much loved mother of **Charlotte** (dec) and **Elana**Admired mother-in-law of **Graham**Adored Boba of **Jonathan** and **Mark**

A loved and respected aunt, cousin, friend, and wise counsel to many.

Always in our hearts

DEATH

It is with profound sadness we announce the passing of

Gabor (Gabi) Grunbaum

25-6-1925 – 21-9-2020

Adoring and adored husband of **Erna**

A kind and gentle soul who endeared himself to everyone who knew him

He will be greatly missed by his family and friends

DEATH

With broken hearts we advise the passing, in Harare,
of our adored and adoring father, father-in-law and Pappa**BENNIE (BERNARD) WINE**

5/4/1938 – 18/9/2020

He will always be loved, missed, cherished, remembered and respected
by his children and grandchildren**Steven & Cathy Wine** (Memphis)**Jonathan Wine** (Sydney)**Melanie & Mark, Yaron and Yakira Sarachik** (Melbourne)

M.H.D.S.R.I.P.

DEATH

HELEN FRIEDMANN

Passed away peacefully after a short illness

Much loved and loving mother to **Rodney**

A fighter to the end who always stood by her convictions

She was much loved and admired by all who knew her

OBITUARY

Email 500-word obituaries together with a photograph
to shaned@jewishnews.net.au**An extraordinary life journey**

Eva Marks, an Austrian who became a fair dinkum Aussie, died on February 27, 2020 as she lived, with true fighting spirit, surrounded by the love she created.

Born in Vienna in 1932 to Robert and Erna Maas, Eva's childhood was irrevocably changed at age six, when the Nazis entered Austria in 1938.

She followed her mother and grandmother to Latvia with the help of her aunt, travelling half the journey on a bi-plane by herself.

When the Germans invaded Russia, Eva was taken along with her mother and grandmother to the dreaded Russian Karaganda and Siberian gulags, where she remained for six years from the age of nine to 15.

It was during this time that her incredible fighting spirit and will to survive showed what a remarkable woman she would become.

She had her appendix removed without any form of anaesthetic whilst being tied down on a table, was rescued from a cesspool and survived scarlet fever.

Eva, her mother, grandmother and stepfather, survived the gulags whilst over 60 members of her family perished in the Holocaust.

Returning to Vienna and with no previous schooling, within two years she completed the equivalent of matriculation.

She was invited to Australia to visit her father, a Dunera boy, who had settled in Melbourne and owned The Victory restaurant in St Kilda. Eva's parents had divorced in Vienna prior to WWII.

Eva's father, Robert, had shown Stan Marks, a reporter on the Melbourne Herald, a photo of Eva, suggesting he could introduce her to his friends as they were of a similar age.

Stan looked at the photo of titian-haired Eva and quickly determined that he would be the one to show Eva Melbourne!

At aged 17, Eva arrived in Melbourne and met Stan on her second night. In just over a year, Stan proposed for a second time in London's St. Pauls Cathedral Whispering Gallery. Eva stood at one end and Stan the other, where his voice went around the gallery with the question, "Will you marry me". The answer returned immediately, "Yes I will – fair dinkum!"

Whilst living in London, Eva made soft toys for a prominent Mayfair toy shop. This lifelong love of creating and teaching soft toy-making had its beginnings in the dust of the gulags where she would use any available sticks to draw animals.

Many years later she would make 1,200 various sized penguins for the Phillip Island penguin sanctuary. Eva's creative work included teaching soft toy making at the CAE, and as craft editor for New Idea and other publications. She had two gallery showings of her wall hangings and did pottery with artist Lucy Boyd.

Eva and Stan lived in Canada, where their daughter Lee was born in 1953. Returning to Melbourne, their son, Peter, was born there two years later.

Eva soon established herself as an excellent hostess, and her and Stan's dinner parties were a much sort after invitation.

Eva became a volunteer guide at the

Jewish Museum and later also volunteered at the Holocaust Centre, where she became deputy curator, a role she held for over 17 years.

She was also a founding member of Child Survivors and of The Friends of the Holocaust. She gained the reputation of infinite jest, especially ending every child survivors meeting with her latest joke.

Eva was heavily involved, and worked tirelessly on, many of the Holocaust Centre exhibitions and projects, and was the instigator of a time capsule that will be opened in future years. Along with a fellow volunteer, she created a wall hanging that is on display at the centre.

Eva received many awards, including the Austrian Service Abroad for her outstanding contribution to Holocaust commemoration, her leadership in life, and her unwavering optimism in the face of overwhelming hardship.

In a congratulatory letter from then Prime Minister Julia Gillard, it was noted that Eva was the first female and the first Australian to receive this award. Ms Gillard wrote: Mrs Marks has been a long-time torch bearer for the victims and survivors of World War II.

Eva was also congratulated in Federal parliament for her various activities at home and abroad for both Jewish and non-Jewish communities.

Eva's reputation as a speaker to various organisations and schools was of the highest regard, and her ability to tell her incredible story in her widely praised autobiography, *A Patchwork Life*, always left her audience captivated.



Eva Marks

1932-2020

In an article about the book in the Saturday Age, journalist Cameron Woodhead wrote "Despite her traumatic childhood, Eva survived and has made an extraordinary life for herself in Australia. Her story is a remarkable tale, perhaps because of Mrs Marks' frankness and good humour."

Eva's mantra was 'Life was journey, birth is a beginning and death a destination' - and her's was a voyage.

Eva is survived by her husband Stan, brother Henry, son Peter, grandchildren Caitlin, Claire, Alistair and Nicholas, and great grandson Aubrey.

Submitted by Stan Marks