



Esther Levine

April 27, 1930 - January 29, 2015

Esther Gelfond Levine passed away January 29, 2015 about three months shy of her 85th birthday and about a week before her 66th wedding anniversary. She was born April 27, 1930 to Sam & Fannie Gelfond in San Antonio, TX. Her passion in life was her family and her love of music. Esther also loved to dance. In fact, after only one dance with an Army soldier at a USO club in 1947, she told her girlfriends that she was going to marry that man and two years later she did. She worked many jobs in her earlier life and was most proud of the seventeen years that she worked side-by-side with her husband as they managed several men's retail stores in Texas and Louisiana. She was preceded in death by her parents, Sam and Fannie Gelfond, her eldest sister Mary, younger brother Israel and granddaughter Rachel Levine. She is survived by husband Al, son/daughter-in-law Mel and Paulette, sister Helen Shacket, and grandchildren Andrew, Corinna, and Derek, and sister-in-law Joan Gelfond. Esther is also survived by a number of nieces and nephews in Texas and New York. A funeral service will be held Friday, January 30 at 4:30 p.m. at Emanu El Cemetery with Rabbi Roy Walter and Cantor Vadim Tunitsky officiating. Honorary pall bearers will be Andrew and Derek Levine, Michael Wolf, Richard Wolf, Robert Wolf, and Joel Zimmerman. In lieu of flowers, donations in Esther's name may be made to the Cantor Tunitsky Music Fund of the Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism in Houston at 801 Bering Drive, 77057 or the Fredelle Lack Eichhorn Cantor's Music Fund at Congregation Emanu El in Houston at 1500 Sunset Blvd., 77005.