Dr. Paula Rosenstein

Paula Jeanne Rosenstein, 74, formerly of this area, died November 17, 2018, in Corpus Christi, Texas.

A graveside burial will be held in the Jewish Section at Seaside Memorial Cemetery in Corpus Christi on Tuesday, Nov. 20, at 10 a.m. A memorial service celebrating her life will be held in December at a later date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Corpus Christi Food Bank.

She was born on Aug. 30, 1944, to Irving Y. and Sara Fishman in Oklahoma City, Okla. Her father was a professor of biology at Grinnell College and her mother was a master professional photographer. Paula attended religious school in Marshalltown, where she met her husband of more than 50 years, Matthew Rosenstein. Prior to marrying Matt on Dec. 26, 1966, Paula graduated with a BA in English from the University of Oklahoma.

Paula and Matt first moved to Corpus Christi in 1976, where they raised their two children. Paula initially was a homemaker and volunteer who championed children. In 1971, she founded and served as the first president of Family Outreach, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping children who had been abused and their parents, which President George H.W. Bush named the 306th of his “Thousand Points of Light” on Nov. 21, 1990. This was but the first of Paula’s many charitable endeavors, for which she received numerous awards for her tireless efforts on behalf of children. These accolades included the Junior League of Corpus Christi’s Active Volunteer of the Year, the JC Penney Foundation Golden Rule Award, and the National Council of Jewish Women’s Hannah Solomon Award for outstanding community service.

After their children graduated from high school, Paula embarked on a career in social work and counseling, focused helping children and their parents. She earned a master’s degree in social work from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas, became a licensed clinical social worker with a supervisory designation, and, at the age of 60, she obtained her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, where she taught courses on domestic violence, social work and counseling. As a testament to her expertise, Paula frequently testified as an expert witness on behalf of victims of child abuse. Despite her busy career, for which the YWCA of Corpus Christi recognized her as a “YWCA in Careers,” Paula continued to volunteer for multiple organizations, touching thousands of lives throughout the Coastal Bend.

Paula is survived by her husband, Matthew; her children David Rosenstein of Dallas, Texas, and Gayle Klein of New York, New York; one granddaughter, a sister, Elaine Sherpa of Dallas, Texas; and other relations.

She was preceded in death by her parents.