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The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

An Division of Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch – Lubavitch World Headquarters



וְחַי יָהִי אֶל לְבָנוֹ

*And the living shall
take it to heart.*

Marking the first yahrzeit of the passing of Mrs. Sarah Rohr

Tenth of Cheshvan, 5769

November 8, 2008

ת"ב

A yahrzeit, the anniversary of a person's passing, is a day of great significance. It is a time to remember the impact of loved ones who are no longer with us, and an opportunity to repay their kindness through the positive acts performed in their memory. Through our good deeds, we bring spiritual life and light to the souls of the departed.

Kabbalah describes the name of a person as a window into that soul's spiritual essence. Each letter of a person's Hebrew name, steeped in mystical significance, hints to the life's purpose of that individual.

The Tenth of Cheshvan, 5769 (November 8, 2008) marks the first yahrzeit of the passing of Mrs. Sarah Rohr. There is no more fitting tribute to her life's work than to use this day to increase our commitment to mitzvot that remind us of her precious legacy.



Mrs. SARAH (CHARLOTTE) ROHR, late wife of the noted philanthropist Mr. Sami Rohr, was born in Munkacz, Hungary to Reb Yekutiel Yehudah and Leah Kastner. She was a young woman when her parents and three of her siblings perished in the Holocaust. After the war, she and her four surviving siblings made their way to Santiago, Chile, where she met and married her husband, Mr. Sami Rohr.

Mrs. Rohr was an enthusiastic partner in all of her husband's philanthropic efforts. Together, they nurtured an empire of Jewish outreach centers in North America, South America, Israel, and the former Soviet Union, including the magnificent Adat Israel synagogue in Bogotá, Colombia, and The Shul in Miami, Florida. At their request, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, of righteous memory, appointed the first Chabad-Lubavitch emissary to Colombia in 1980.

Mrs. Rohr displayed her untiring devotion to Israel as an active member of the Woman's International Zionist Organization. She also gave of herself generously to local communal causes.

Always shying away from the limelight and honor which she so richly deserved, Mrs. Rohr was a paradigm of dignity and quiet grace.



Lighting Shabbat Lights

Mrs. Sarah Rohr, the ever-gracious matriarch, radiated warmth and kindness. She brought peace and beauty to her own family and to families around the world. Each Friday she was a queen in her own home, welcoming the holy Shabbat and suffusing her home with holiness and calm. Likewise, every Jewish mother who lights the Shabbat candles restores energy to a world drained by workday concerns, gracing her home with a palpable G-dly presence.

As Sarah Rohr brightened the world with her good deeds, let us bring brightness to the world through the light of the Shabbat candles.



Consider committing to one of the following acts in her memory:

- Begin lighting Shabbat candles yourself, or invite your daughter to join you each week in lighting candles.
- Share the light with family and friends. For a free starter kit and more information about candle-lighting, visit Fridaylight.org.
- Add beauty to the mitzvah of candle-lighting by ensuring you are ready to light candles a few minutes early, so that you can engage in this precious mitzvah in a calm and peaceful frame of mind.

Acts of Compassion

Sarah and her life partner, Mr. Sami Rohr א' בָּלְטַא, worked tirelessly to rebuild Jewish life in a post-Holocaust world, helping communities across North and South America, in Israel, and in the former Soviet Union. Inspired by her model of compassion, let us look to those around us who are in need of a helping hand or a kind word, and commit to acts of love and caring in our own communities.

Consider adding one of the following acts of kindness to your week:

- Call an elderly neighbor when you run errands, and offer to do some shopping.
- Visit a hospital or nursing home once a week.
- Send a challah or a warm meal to someone who lives alone.
- Take a young mother's children out to the park so she can enjoy a short break.



Torah Study

Sarah Rohr and the entire Rohr family have always treasured the value of Torah education and Jewish learning. Mrs. Rohr understood that through the study of Torah, we integrate our minds with our spirits, bringing wholeness to ourselves and vision to those around us.

What better way to commemorate her love of Torah than by making a commitment to increased Torah study?

Consider some of the following options:

- Study over the phone for 30 minutes a week with a personal Torah mentor. For assistance in finding a mentor, visit Jnet.org.
- Attend a course about Judaism. The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) offers courses regularly in over 300 cities worldwide.
- Visit your local Chabad Center or local community synagogue and speak to the rabbi or rebbetzin about additional learning opportunities available in your community.

