

IRMA V. MAIDENBERG, May 17, 1915 – April 25, 2009



IRMA V. MAIDENBERG, whose artistry graced clothing, wrists and dining rooms across America, died April 25, 2009 at home. She was 93.

Irma Maidenberg's creations took the form of pins, bracelets, wine coasters and napkin rings. She shaped each from softened plastic, hand-painted and decorated them. The images were of stylish women, men in tuxedos, and colorful, whimsical creatures. She was always delighted when a stranger saw her wearing one of her works, and bought it on the spot.

"My mother's jewelry was just one aspect of her love of art, and of the unusual," said her daughter, Toby Klebenov. "Our living room was a small museum filled with wonders, some serious, others silly."

Irma Maidenberg was born May 17, 1915, in Indianapolis to Arthur and Mary Valinet. She married Milton Maidenberg in 1939. He preceded her in death in 1996. She was also preceded in death by brother, Stanley in 1994.

Irma's sons, Michael and Reed recalled how their home was a bustle of activity, their mother presiding as a superb host and cook. On visits they would find a new video she encouraged them to watch, and were quizzed on current events, about which she was keenly up to date. She was also an accomplished bridge player and into her 90's played competitive bridge online.

IRMA V. MAIDENBERG

Survivors include daughter, Toby Klebenov, Newton, Massachusetts; sons, Michael, Coral Gables, Florida, and Reed, Santa Rosa, California; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; brother-in-law, Frank, Marion; nephew, Steve Valinet, Marco Island, Florida and niece, Pam Valinet Brennan, San Diego, California.

Burial Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at Estates of Serenity, Marion, Indiana.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Sinai Temple, 521 S. Boots Street, Marion, Indiana 46953; WIPB-TV, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47303 or the ACLU, 125 Broad Street, 18th Floor, New York, New York 10004.

The memorial gathering will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 6, at the House of Irma, 1100 Euclid Ave., Marion, Indiana.

No need to RSVP. Come prepared to celebrate a remarkable woman's remarkable life.

To view slideshows of a sample of her prolific artwork, go to:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/_specialj/sets/72157604056236238/

or

<http://picasaweb.google.com/reedmberg/IrmaSArtwork>