



Adele Irene Shannon

July 10, 1924 - September 10, 2015

Adele Shannon, a much loved assistant manager and guest relations "hostess" at The Plaza Hotel in the 1960's, passed away on September 10, 2015, in Sarasota, Florida, where she had been residing for many years.

Ms. Shannon was hired by The Plaza management in 1962 with no job description, but a mandate to warm the "formality" of the hotel's atmosphere, soothe the nerves of idiosyncratic and fussy celebrities, and somehow keep guests happy no matter what challenging circumstance might arise. She did it all from behind her Louis XV desk in the lobby, often accompanied by her Lhasa Apso, Samantha, who also played a key role in entertaining the very youngest guests, in the "Eloise" playroom.

Adele was born in Chicago on July 10, 1924 to Irene and Paul Sternberg. Her father was an orchestra leader, and they moved their large family from Chicago to the west coast to New York and then back to Seattle. She attended Los Angeles City College where she studied acting, and then began a career that took her from Palm Springs to Beverly Hills to San Francisco, before moving to New York. Before The Plaza, she had her introduction to the world of grand hotels at The Fairmont in San Francisco, while also making TV commercials and filling in at the news desk of the San Francisco ABC affiliate.

Adele learned early on in her career to never say "I can't" or "we don't." With

her winning smile, quick thinking and creativity, she always found a solution to whatever the challenge. She carried these skills with her to Florida where she successfully managed a small business with her husband, Harold Rosen, and volunteered as a docent at local museums. Adele loved fine art, fine jewelry, beautiful clothes, and of course several generations of beloved Lhasa Apsos. Another prized possession was her typewriter, where she enjoyed writing short memoirs or funny poems that she submitted to local newspapers.

Adele was preceded in death by her husband Samuel Harold Rosen. She is survived by many nieces and nephews, as well as grand nieces and grand nephews. The family wishes to express its deep gratitude to Lutheran Services of Florida and Live Oak Manor, Sarasota, for their loving support and care.

Tribute Wall



“ Adele Irene Shannon

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ Adele Irene Shannon

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM