



# In Memoriam 2023-2025



**Phyllis Dickinson**  
Zonta Club of Cheektowaga-Lancaster



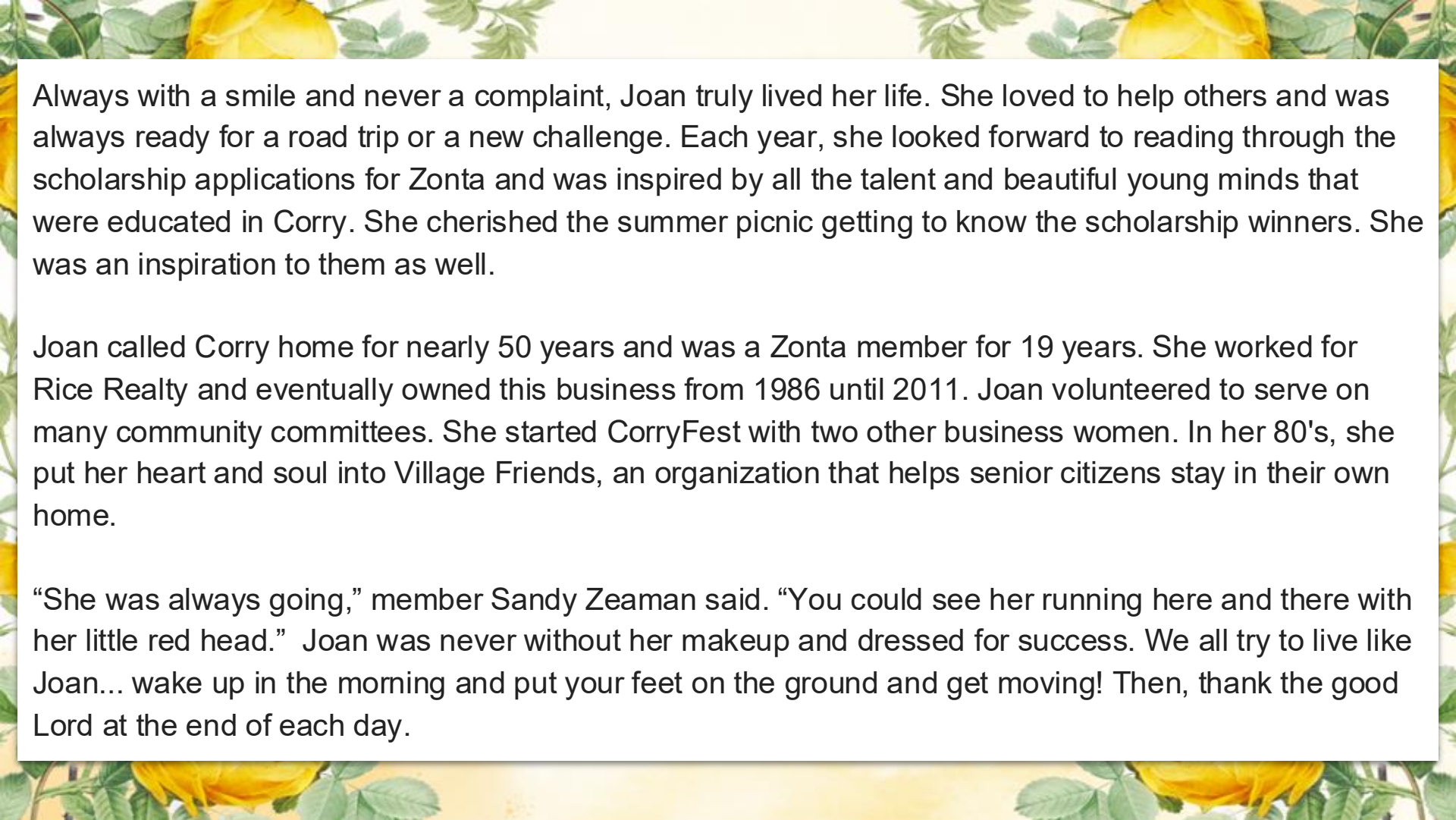
As a member of Zonta for over 42 years, Phyllis was an inspiration to all. Professionally she worked in the Lancaster School System as a Librarian. She was well regarded in her communities of Cheektowaga, Lancaster and Depew. She volunteered with Meals on Wheels and the Depew Boys and Girls Club. She also volunteered for many years with the Family Justice Center where she helped survivors of domestic violence at their intake desk.

As a member of Zonta she served within her club as Advocacy Chairlady, Secretary, Vice-President and President. She was voted Zontian of the Year in 2007. She also served as the Club Historian with careful care, organization and storing of all things Zonta. She was an active participant in all club activities and loved providing food, especially desserts. She opened her home and her heart to all members and for club activities.

She was not only an excellent leader, she showed her commitment to the mission and goals of Zonta. She participated and rarely missed Club's activities. Every member attending our monthly Business Meeting was greeted with Phyllis' big, friendly and unforgettable smile. Phyllis' soft voice, beautiful smile, warmth, friendliness are missed by all and she will be forever in our minds and hearts.

**Joan Hannon**  
Zonta Club of Corry






Always with a smile and never a complaint, Joan truly lived her life. She loved to help others and was always ready for a road trip or a new challenge. Each year, she looked forward to reading through the scholarship applications for Zonta and was inspired by all the talent and beautiful young minds that were educated in Corry. She cherished the summer picnic getting to know the scholarship winners. She was an inspiration to them as well.

Joan called Corry home for nearly 50 years and was a Zonta member for 19 years. She worked for Rice Realty and eventually owned this business from 1986 until 2011. Joan volunteered to serve on many community committees. She started CorryFest with two other business women. In her 80's, she put her heart and soul into Village Friends, an organization that helps senior citizens stay in their own home.

“She was always going,” member Sandy Zeaman said. “You could see her running here and there with her little red head.” Joan was never without her makeup and dressed for success. We all try to live like Joan... wake up in the morning and put your feet on the ground and get moving! Then, thank the good Lord at the end of each day.

**Carolyn Mooney**  
Zonta Club of Hamburg-Orchard Park



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Carolyn Mooney was an active member of the Zonta Club of Hamburg-Orchard Park for 32 years. She served as President, chaired several committees including Club Awards, service and fundraising projects. She organized social events for club members including the summer picnic.

As an educator, her favorite role was serving as Chair of the Scholarship Committee which she did for many years. Her family established memorial scholarships in her honor which were awarded to several adults returning to school to improve their lives.

Carolyn loved Zonta and dedicated her time and talents to “Build a Better World for Women and Girls.”

**Sylvia Kajiura**  
Zonta Club of Hamilton 1



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Sylvia was an active member of the Zonta Club of Hamilton 1 since 1975.

She was a past club president, served as a board member twice and chaired many committees including a District Conference held in Hamilton. Sylvia enjoyed travelling to Conferences and Conventions and enjoying fellow Zontians.

Sylvia was nominated as a Hamilton YWCA Woman of Distinction in 2016. Sylvia provided exemplary services to others as both an educator and a volunteer. She was a young single teacher who came to Canada in 1957 from St. Lucia. She was one of the pioneers of Special Education classes in the Catholic School board and piloted the system-wide French Immersion elementary program. She was the first married woman and first black woman in Hamilton to become a school principal. Sylvia was awarded the Outstanding Service Award from the Catholic School Board.

She was a lifelong volunteer and mentor.

**Ellen Munella**  
Zonta Club of Jamestown





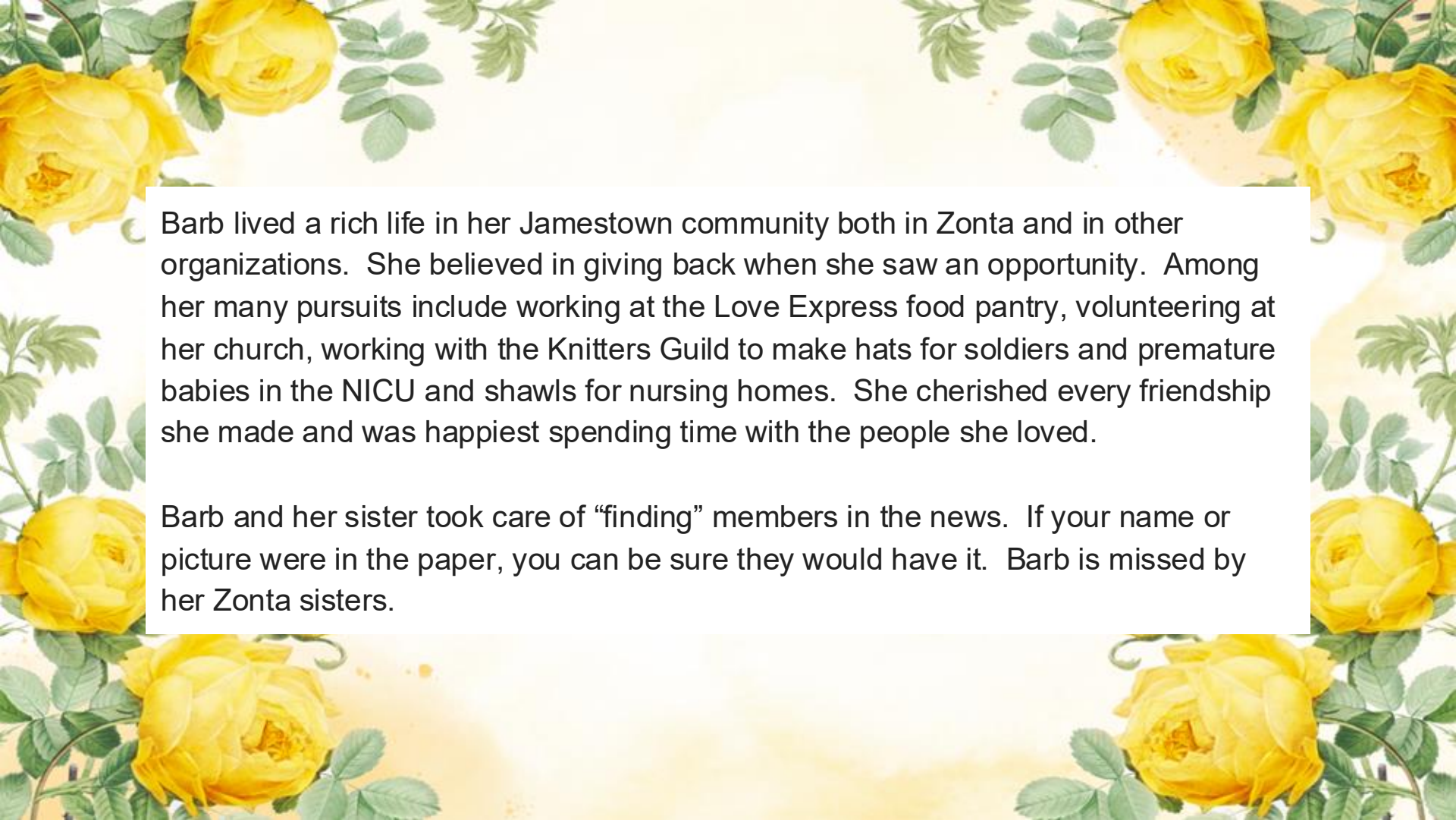
Ellen was Zonta member for 14 years.

Ellen served as Chair of our Service Committee for several years. One of Ellen's favorite service projects was our Lily's Hope service. Lily's Hope is a resource for local women who have experienced hair loss due to chemotherapy or other medical condition. Wigs, caps and more, are provided at no charge to a client. Ellen is missed by her Zonta family.

She was a communicant of St. James Parrish, member and past president of both the Zonta Club of Jamestown and the Jamestown Teachers Association. In addition, she was on NEA of NY board of directors. Ellen was an avid reader and loved playing card games.

**Barb Slumsky**  
Zonta Club of Jamestown

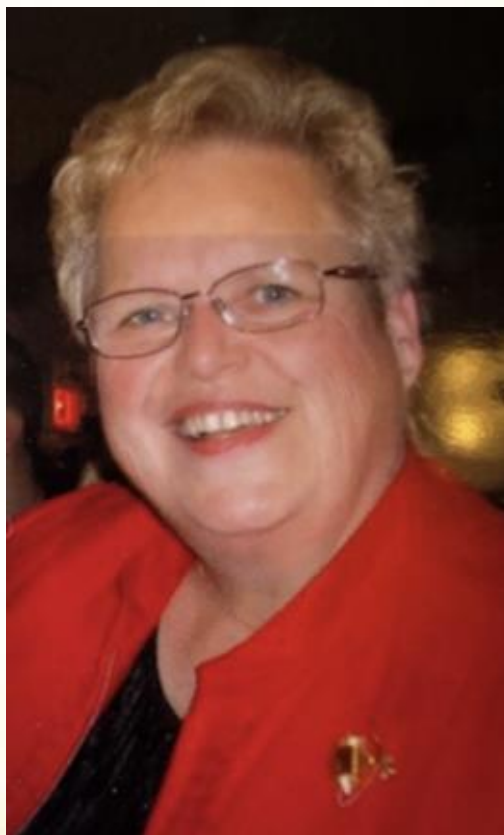


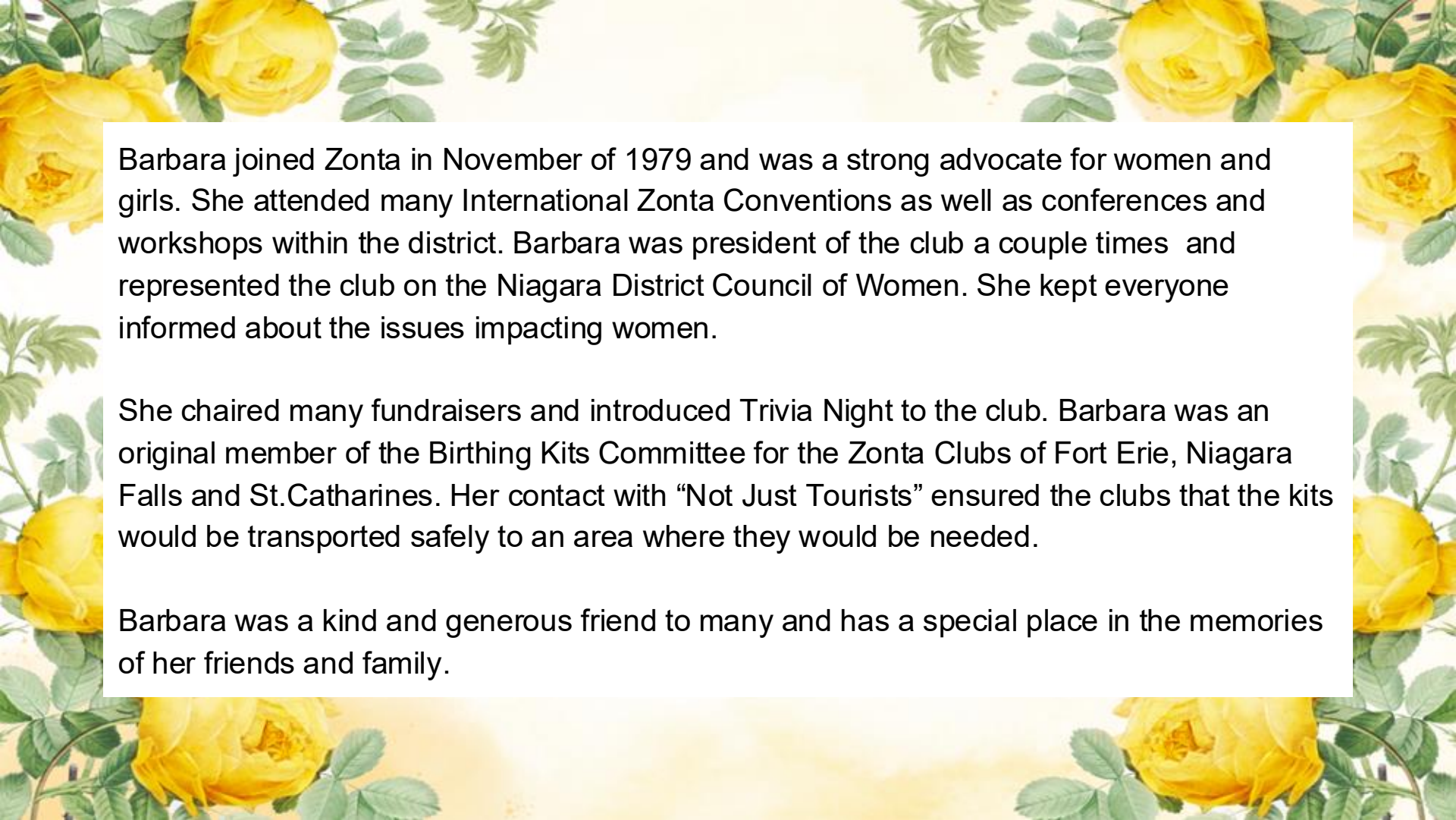
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Barb lived a rich life in her Jamestown community both in Zonta and in other organizations. She believed in giving back when she saw an opportunity. Among her many pursuits include working at the Love Express food pantry, volunteering at her church, working with the Knitters Guild to make hats for soldiers and premature babies in the NICU and shawls for nursing homes. She cherished every friendship she made and was happiest spending time with the people she loved.

Barb and her sister took care of “finding” members in the news. If your name or picture were in the paper, you can be sure they would have it. Barb is missed by her Zonta sisters.

**Barbara Munroe**  
Zonta Club of St. Catharines



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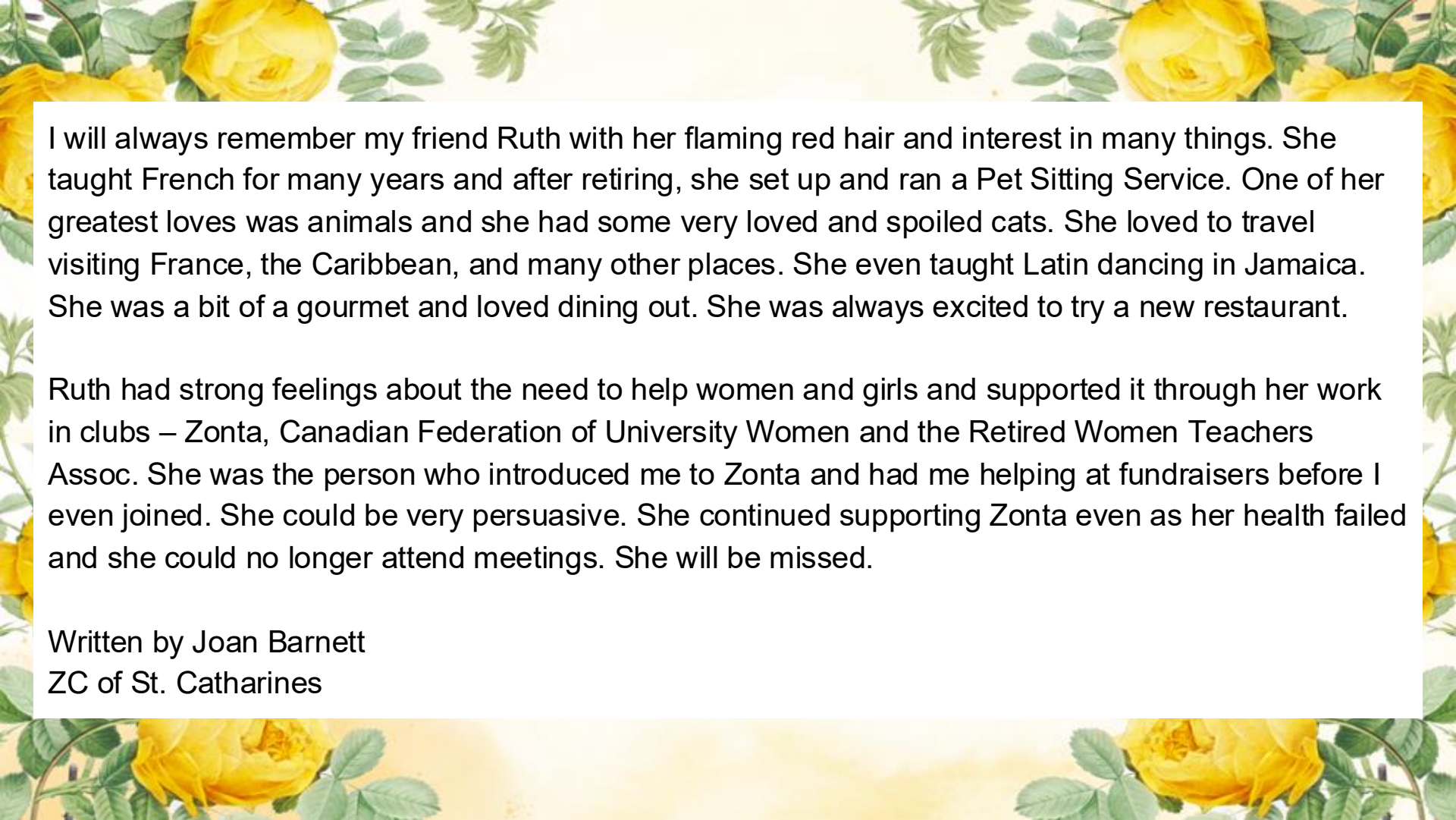
Barbara joined Zonta in November of 1979 and was a strong advocate for women and girls. She attended many International Zonta Conventions as well as conferences and workshops within the district. Barbara was president of the club a couple times and represented the club on the Niagara District Council of Women. She kept everyone informed about the issues impacting women.

She chaired many fundraisers and introduced Trivia Night to the club. Barbara was an original member of the Birthing Kits Committee for the Zonta Clubs of Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines. Her contact with “Not Just Tourists” ensured the clubs that the kits would be transported safely to an area where they would be needed.

Barbara was a kind and generous friend to many and has a special place in the memories of her friends and family.

**Ruth Petryna**  
Zonta Club of St. Catharines



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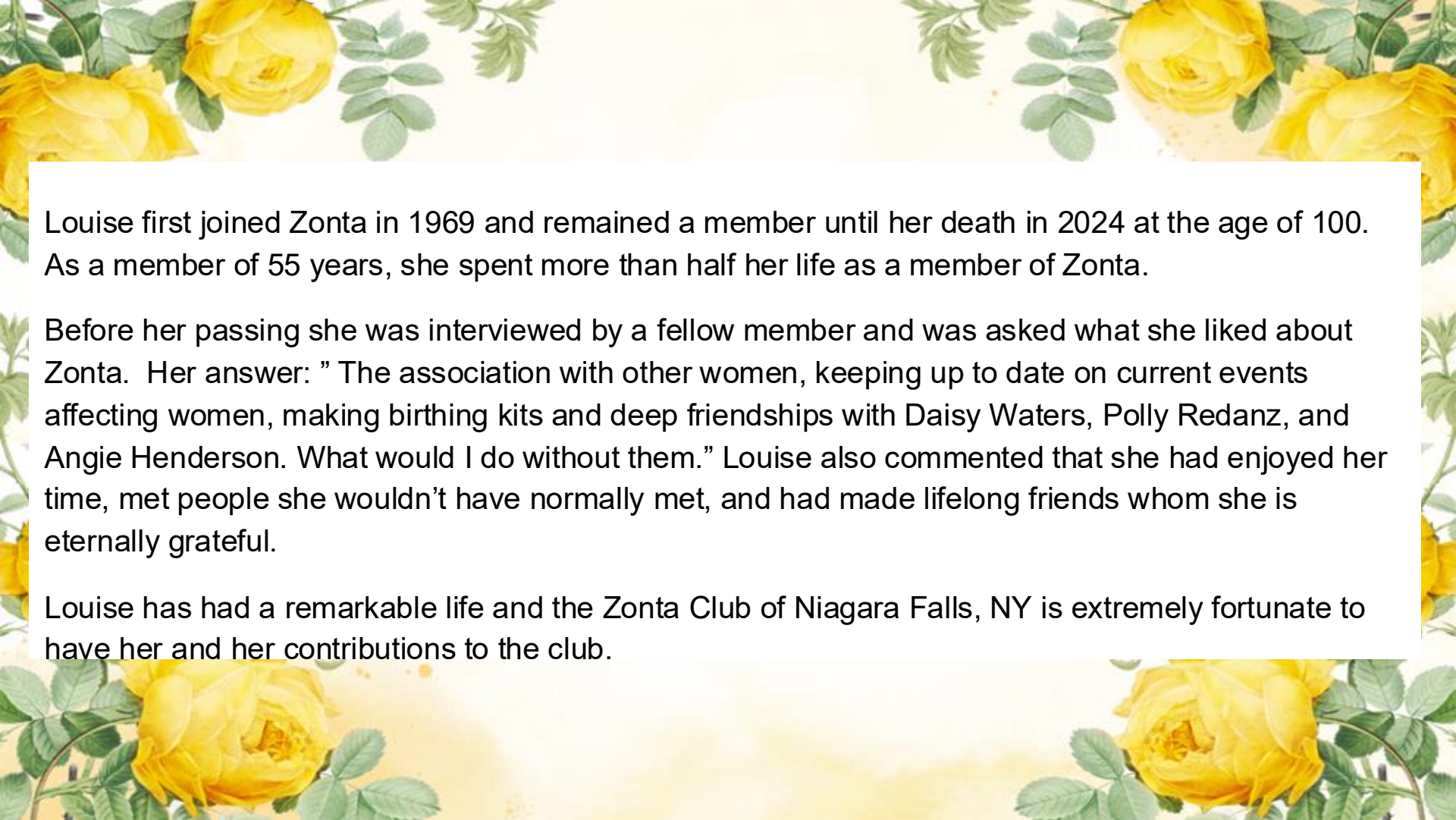
I will always remember my friend Ruth with her flaming red hair and interest in many things. She taught French for many years and after retiring, she set up and ran a Pet Sitting Service. One of her greatest loves was animals and she had some very loved and spoiled cats. She loved to travel visiting France, the Caribbean, and many other places. She even taught Latin dancing in Jamaica. She was a bit of a gourmet and loved dining out. She was always excited to try a new restaurant.

Ruth had strong feelings about the need to help women and girls and supported it through her work in clubs – Zonta, Canadian Federation of University Women and the Retired Women Teachers Assoc. She was the person who introduced me to Zonta and had me helping at fundraisers before I even joined. She could be very persuasive. She continued supporting Zonta even as her health failed and she could no longer attend meetings. She will be missed.

Written by Joan Barnett  
ZC of St. Catharines

**Louise Morden**  
Zonta Club of Niagara Falls, NY





Louise first joined Zonta in 1969 and remained a member until her death in 2024 at the age of 100. As a member of 55 years, she spent more than half her life as a member of Zonta.

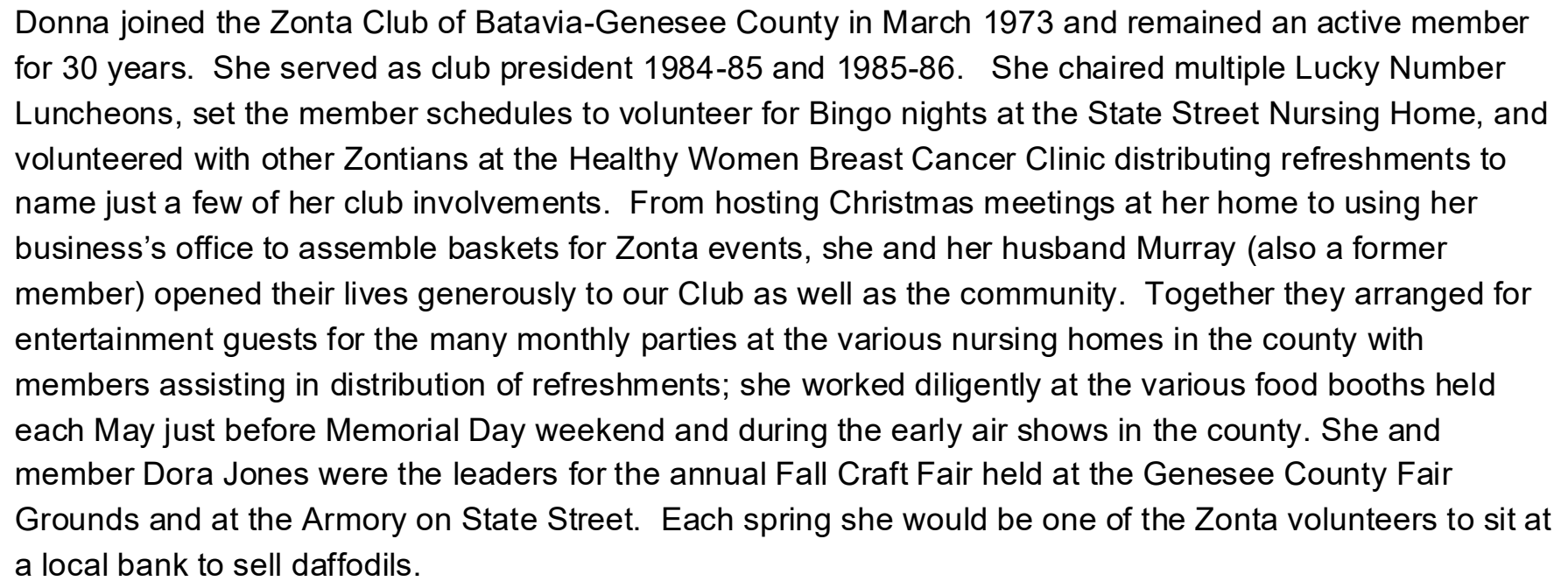
Before her passing she was interviewed by a fellow member and was asked what she liked about Zonta. Her answer: " The association with other women, keeping up to date on current events affecting women, making birthing kits and deep friendships with Daisy Waters, Polly Redanz, and Angie Henderson. What would I do without them." Louise also commented that she had enjoyed her time, met people she wouldn't have normally met, and had made lifelong friends whom she is eternally grateful.

Louise has had a remarkable life and the Zonta Club of Niagara Falls, NY is extremely fortunate to have her and her contributions to the club.

**Donna Morrow**

Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County





Donna joined the Zonta Club of Batavia-Genesee County in March 1973 and remained an active member for 30 years. She served as club president 1984-85 and 1985-86. She chaired multiple Lucky Number Luncheons, set the member schedules to volunteer for Bingo nights at the State Street Nursing Home, and volunteered with other Zontians at the Healthy Women Breast Cancer Clinic distributing refreshments to name just a few of her club involvements. From hosting Christmas meetings at her home to using her business's office to assemble baskets for Zonta events, she and her husband Murray (also a former member) opened their lives generously to our Club as well as the community. Together they arranged for entertainment guests for the many monthly parties at the various nursing homes in the county with members assisting in distribution of refreshments; she worked diligently at the various food booths held each May just before Memorial Day weekend and during the early air shows in the county. She and member Dora Jones were the leaders for the annual Fall Craft Fair held at the Genesee County Fair Grounds and at the Armory on State Street. Each spring she would be one of the Zonta volunteers to sit at a local bank to sell daffodils.

In service to the community Donna was a member of many organizations including the St. Jerome Hospital Guild, Catholic Daughters of America, Ladies of Charity, American Legion Auxiliary, and the Christian Women's association. She took part in activities supporting parent activities at the St. Joseph School and served for a time as a Girl Scout leader and thoroughly enjoyed her luncheons with the Red Hat Society.

In 1992, she was awarded the club's Humanitarian Award.

The image features a light cream-colored background with soft, yellowish watercolor washes. In each of the four corners, there are clusters of yellow roses with green leaves and stems, some in full bloom and some as buds. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

We thank these women for their  
years of dedication and service.

They will be missed.