



Honoring Dr. Rosalie Kane

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INTRODUCTION



Honoring Dr. Rosalie Kane

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Obituary for Rosalie Kane from the Minneapolis Star Tribune May 5, 2020

Rosalie Ann Kane, PhD, 79, died in her home with her daughters at her side on May 5, 2020, following a brief battle with brain cancer. Rosalie was a professor of social work and public health for more than 45 years and spent more than three decades at the University of Minnesota where she worked up until the time of her death. A pioneer in her field, Rosalie's academic work focused on case management, community-based care, and transforming long term care systems to be more person-centered. She was a relentless champion for the rights of older adults and adults with disabilities to self-advocate. Rosalie was a prolific author, unafraid to challenge established norms in her work. She truly cared about and listened to people's stories, which animated her professional pursuits. Rosalie had a brilliant and creative intellect and she shared it generously with her students, colleagues, and friends. Rosalie was passionate in her commitments but not rigid in her thinking. Rosalie actively participated in many communities and causes. She was extremely proud of her Canadian heritage and remained connected to her Ottawa Valley roots despite living her adult life in the United States. She was an unapologetic feminist and progressive political activist. Growing up in an era when religious education was largely reserved for boys, Rosalie was batmitzvahed as an adult and her synagogue remained an important focal point of her intellectual and spiritual life. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Kane, parents Max and Pearl Smolkin, and brother, Robert Smolkin. She is survived by her three daughters: Miranda Kane (Patrick Robbins), Ingrid Kane Johnson (Gunnar Johnson), and Kate Kane (Joyce Mariano); her grandchildren: Kathleen, Devan, Mary, Conor, Ilsa, Lily, Olivia, and

Emilia, who were the source of Rosalie's purest joy and whose diverse interests and talents she enthusiastically supported.

When Dr. Rosalie Kane passed away last May, I asked Dr. Kevin Mahoney and Dr. Nancy Morrow-Howell to serve as Guest Editors on a tribute issue to her. Rosalie Kane was a larger-than-life figure in gerontological social work. With her tremendous intellect, unbounded curiosity, and tenacity, she demonstrated the incredible value of having a social work scholar engaged in solving real world problems for people who need care and supports to live meaningful lives. Rosalie earned her place at the table and never shied away from taking her seat and making her voice heard. She was a personal mentor of mine, but she taught us all the value of engaging in scholarship that makes a difference and taking risks as scholars in order to help make life better for everyone. This tribute issue is a very modest thank you to her for all she did to develop, support, and garner respect for gerontological social work. I am grateful to Dr. Mahoney and Dr. Morrow-Howell for their careful and thoughtful development and compilation of this issue.

May we all find ways to be a bit more like Rosalie,

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Reference

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