

This is IDA BRENER's 100th Birthday

My mother, IDA BRENER (nee RUBIN) was born on July 16th, 1918 in Johannesburg, South Africa. She was the youngest of Annie and Zelig Rubin's four children. Her parents, both Lithuanian immigrants to South Africa made their living as tailors. Ida was a very popular girl and an outstanding sportswoman at high school and subsequently.

At the age of 19, after marrying my father, Manny Reichman, she moved to Durban where, in due course, she gave birth to me, and 2 and ½ years later, to my brother, Roland. Thereafter, still in her early 20's, she became the local squash and tennis champion and captain of the Natal hockey team. Manny died of cancer when he was only 38. A couple of years later, my mother drove Roland and me from Durban to Johannesburg to meet Leo Brener, the man she was going to marry. In due course, IDA and Leo had two children together: William and Zoe. (It may be noted that both of IDA's husbands were renowned sportsmen: Manny-cricket, Leo-rugby).

IDA was a wonderful person and I have never met anyone who didn't love her. She was jolly with an excellent sense of humor and had an intelligent, honest, friendly and generous approach to people. From an early age she was an avid reader, was well informed and often had original and interesting observation to share. She would have said that any positive characteristics attributed to her had resulted from the exercise of socialist principles of fairness, justice and opportunity for all that were inculcated in her by her parents and by the rich social milieu they inhabited together.



5-year old IDA (right) with Sarah



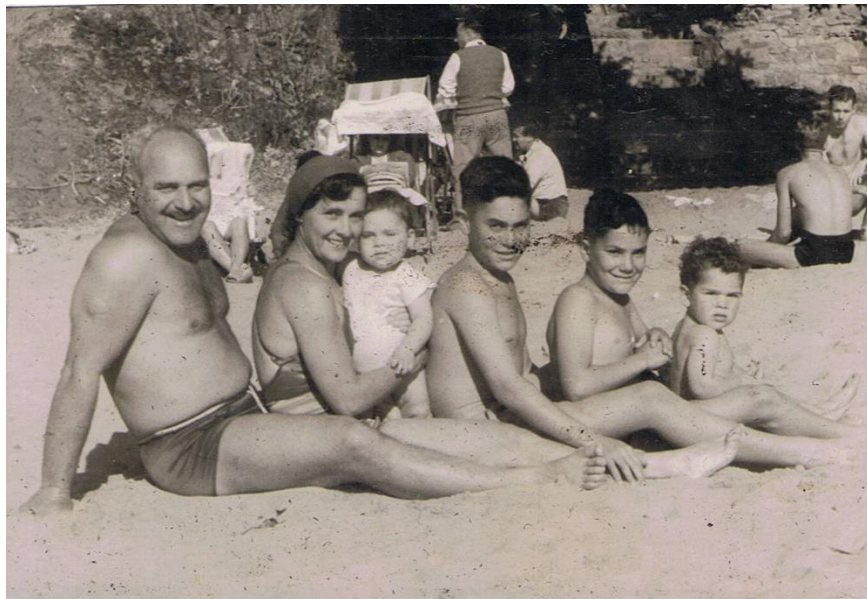
IDA (right) and Sarah with friend



Manny (left) IDA and their friend, Wally



Running on Durban Beach with Roland



**Leo, IDA, Zoe, Jasper,
Roland and William**



The Brener Family in Stony Brook, 1988