

A Celebration of the Life of Virginia M. Kricun



Virginia M. “Ginny” (Brauner) Kricun, a pioneer in corporate philanthropy, an important advocate for women’s rights, and a lifelong leader in the arts and human services, died on April 1, 2024, at age 84, surrounded by family and friends. Born in Philadelphia, she dedicated her life to improving our community.

As Director of Community Relations at Sun Company, Ginny developed best practices in corporate engagement that have become business standards. As a founding Board member of WOMENS Way, she championed organizations protecting women from rape, abuse, and homelessness. As a leading board member of dozens of non-profits, she dedicated her life to making the world a better place. She did all this with unshakable optimism, joy, and compassion for others. She was a devoted family member and a wonderful friend.

Ginny was pre-deceased by her beloved husband, Professor Emeritus Morrie E. Kricun, a prominent radiologist at Penn Medicine and a forensic anthropologist. Together, Ginny and Morrie traveled the world and explored the health of the earth’s earliest inhabitants by imaging their remains.

By engaging in wide-ranging causes, Ginny helped create lasting regional legacies, including Philadelphia’s Avenue of the Arts, WOMENS, Capital to People Financing for Microenterprises, Endow A Home, American Music Theater Festival/Prince Music Theater, Philadelphia Theater Company, Fairmount Park Trolley Service, Resources for Human Development, Girl Scouts of Greater Philadelphia, Nonprofit Housing Development Corporation of Philadelphia, Please Touch Museum, Public Interest Law Center, Gaudenzia House Treatment Centers, Women’s Committee of the Penn Museum, and many more.

During a career that spanned banking, publishing, public relations, and corporate responsibility, Ginny was a partner at the Idea Works and the COO at Morgin Press. She rose from bank teller to Vice President of Public Affairs at Western Savings Bank, spearheading innovative programs including the Avenue of the Arts. From there she became Director of Community Relations at Sun Company, where she headed a \$12 million dollar philanthropy with programs in 12 states and abroad.

Ginny won multiple awards, including a City of Philadelphia Liberty Bell Award, a HELP Award from the Center for Responsible Funding, a Fairmount Park Commission Lifetime Service Award, a Park Honor Tree, Urban League Public Service Award, and a Chapel of the Four Chaplains Community Service Award, among many others.

A practicing Methodist, Ginny also embraced her husband's Jewish faith. She helped found the Delaware Valley Interfaith Group, where she was an active member for 19 years. Her open-minded embrace of people's beliefs led her to do her utmost to address divisions and embrace inclusiveness.

Ginny loved her family deeply. A devoted daughter and granddaughter, she was a stalwart proponent of family achievements and a reliable source of support for nieces and nephews and cousins.

Ginny remained active until the end of her life, as a member of the Lower Providence Township Planning Committee, and as an advisor to Technion America, Gaudenzia House, and Resources for Human Development. Having come to admire the Chester County Community Foundation, Ginny established a program there in her name and that of her beloved husband, Dr. Morrie Kricun.

Loyal friends from throughout Ginny's lifetime, including her decade at Shannondell, tell stories of her readiness to help others. She was a wonderful companion who loved art, theater, and music, and who shared with all her sheer vibrancy and joy in living.

She is survived by her brother-in-law, Dr. Robert (Stephanie) Kricun. She was the proud aunt of Dr. Ashley K. (Ross) Summer and Dr. Bret J. (Hilary) Kricun and had many great-nieces and great-nephews. She is also survived by a dear friend, Marilyn (Wernick) Toub. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Kricun Charitable Trust, Chester County Community Foundation, 28 W. Market Street, West Chester, PA 19382.