

## In Memory of my Sister Helene

We had a tough and strict mother. Helene was always fighting with her and I had to mediate. We lost our father when Helene was 14 and I was 9 years old. It was devastating to Helene and I was too young to know what the future would hold. Financially we were in good shape until the government stepped in and our Mother had to pay a huge sum in taxes. Helene immediately went to work and I worked in a clothing store. Things were rough in those days. But we stuck together and made the best of things. Our childhood was very close-knit and we had many friends. Our mother made sure we did good things and we got reprimanded if we strayed away. We were very involved in the Jewish Community as that was extremely important to our Mother.

Helene left Birmingham at the tender age of 16 to make her way in life. She went to Dallas, Texas and then Miami, FL and Chicago before landing in New York. There was a short stay in Atlanta, GA but Helene's days in the South were far gone. Finally she landed in Boca Raton, FL, and lived there a good part of her life. That's where she met Bob Vollmer and they ended up in a life long and happy life together. She was very happy with Bob and they spent many happy years together. Also her kids, Amy & Greg were close by. Helene and my relationship became closer through the years and a day didn't go by when we did not talk on the phone. We were definitely old school. We used to correspond by mail when she lived in other cities.

To say I miss her dearly is an understatement. I find myself reaching for the phone whenever I need to speak with her. Which is always. We had a close bond that only brother and sister can have. I always remind myself of the years we had together, and I miss her so much. Will I ever get over her departure from my life and Bob's is probably an emphatic NO.

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Jay Cohen