

Guardian of the Ribbon/ Southside Georgia Chapter

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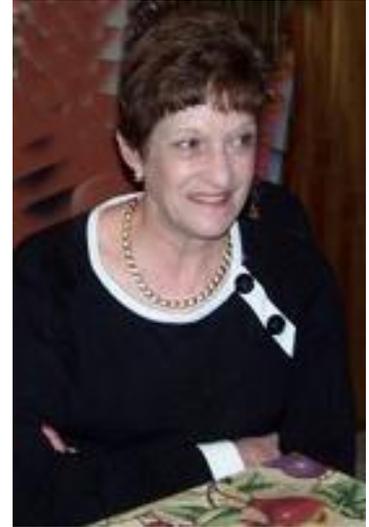
Event: Sept. 11 Liberty County Public Safety Day Event

Recommendation for Rolling Memorial to honor

Ruby Frenkel Perlman

MStarArts CFO

August 31, 2010



RE: My nomination for Ruby Frenkel Perlman

To whom this may concern,

Wouldn't **Ruby** be a wonderful name for a fire truck? It was even a better name for a person! I would like to nominate my friend and mentor **Ruby**, a breast cancer survivor, who died this past year of advanced lung cancer as a candidate for the Guardian of the Ribbon/ Southside Georgia Chapter Rolling Memorial because **Ruby** was a woman of valor, "whose value was far above Rubies...." (Proverbs 31).

Ruby, a Savannahian since high school, who raised her family here and who served for years in the Mayor of Savannah's Finance Office, though gone, leaves a legacy of service that mirrors the hard work and selfless commitment of your fire personnel staff and the truck they ride... An odd comparison perhaps, but to convince your panel of Ruby Frenkel Perlman's worthiness for your honor, I thought of ways in which my friend and mentor **Ruby**, of blessed memory, was indeed like one of your trucks:

Ruby, was impressive, service-oriented and even when seemingly at rest, was never static. She actively served on executive boards of many Savannah civic, religious and charitable organizations including chairman of programs in her neighborhood, for United Way campaign, for the Georgia Government Finance Officers Association, and volunteered for the City of Savannah Tennis and Rugby Tournaments. She co-authored a *Customer Service Environment* Guide written as a team report. She was CFO of MorningStar Cultural Arts, a Savannah-based charity and the director for many years of the Jewish Food festival in Forsyth Park. She would be settling accounts, standing with a clipboard writing, pointing and barking directions, on the phone or walkie-talkie directing people, looking down at food orders, waving people on, orchestrating the movement of trucks in or around—always moving—always a blur of activity, always leading people to do something, always charging ahead or taking charge.

Your fire trucks are never truly static—even when they are parked, they are being cared for by staff to keep it at the ready and eyed by kids of all ages as a symbol of responsibility, honor and safety. Just like your trucks can roll on a scene and make their presence known without putting on their siren, **Ruby** liked to be behind the scenes—to be quietly going about getting things done while others were in the forefront, and not to be singled out for accolades, but her presence was always felt in the care with which she accomplished her tasks no matter how simple. But like a fire truck with its loudest alarm bell,

Ruby could be loud and in control of any crisis or situation, and her throaty laughter was so infectious that sometimes we forgot how very modest and humble she really was.

Just like a fire truck called into decisive action, **Ruby** never seemed indecisive about how to handle even the trickiest of situations, she would tell you exactly how she felt, the right and wrong of a situation, and how events need to be handled.

Lastly, like a fire truck, **Ruby** was ready to help regardless of the time of day or her own busy schedule. But I cannot remember a time in the twenty four years of my Savannah life when **Ruby** was not there. Though it must have happened at one point in our relationship, I cannot ever remember needing to be introduced to **Ruby**. I just knew of her and the things she accomplished. Early morning, in her work clothes, on the weekend, more casually, or late at night in her PJs—**Ruby** made herself available to stroke the problem like a loving mother and make it better, or fan the flame and ignite someone else's energy to reinvigorate a project.

Glaring and bright like your trucks, let me pull this comparison to a close. Ruby was a loyal friend, a fierce competitor, an efficient worker, a tireless volunteer, a woman not afraid to try new ways to help, yet devoted to traditions.

I nominate **Ruby** as great name for a truck and the woman's spirit it would represent.

Humbly submitted for your approval—

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul M. Towling Greenberg". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

MorningStarCultural Arts Group
Creative Director