

Former State Rep. Rosemary Hinkfuss Dies

Written by GBP Staff

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GREEN BAY - Former State Rep. Rosemary Hinkfuss has died.

Hinkfuss, who would have turned 85 in September, served in the Assembly from 1988-94, representing the 88th District. She also served on the Brown County Board and Green Bay City Council from 1974-92.

Hinkfuss was also the first female member of the Green Bay Packers Board of Directors. She was named to that panel in 1980.

"Everything came my way and I accepted it and worked at it", Rosemary is recently quoted as saying.

Rosemary was born in 1931 in Lima, Ohio. Her mother worked in a woolen mill and her father was a tool and dye maker who quit school in the 4th grade. Rosemary went to college at Cardinal Stritch in Milwaukee. She got a remission on her tuition by teaching 3-4th grade at a Catholic school in Spring Green. "In my first year of teaching Mrs. Frank Lloyd Wright invited me for dinner at Taliesin. Years later as a tourist, I thought it looked just like the night I had supper there."

Rosemary met her future husband, Bill, when he came to Cardinal Stritch with a delegation from St. Norbert College. They began writing letters and corresponded while Bill was in the Korean War and later in law school. They married in 1957 and came to Green Bay soon after. Rosemary's involvement in the community got a boost when she was invited to help plan a women's tea for John F. Kennedy's visit to Green Bay. "John Kennedy shook the hand of all the committee members and said when he came to me, 'Thank you, Rosemary, for making this so wonderful.'"

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