



Helene Moglen 1936 - 2018

Resident of Santa Cruz

Helene Moglen, Professor Emerita of Literature and Women's Studies, formerly Dean of Humanities and Arts at UCSC, died peacefully at her home in Santa Cruz, on October 18. She was 82 years old.

Helene was born in Brooklyn, second daughter of Edward L. and Edythe P. Rosenbaum. She earned her B.A. at Bryn Mawr College in 1957, married Sig Moglen, whom she met in eighth grade Latin class, and had her three sons---Eben, Damon, and Seth---while she finished her PhD. in English Literature at Yale. She began her teaching career at NYU in 1966, and in 1978 came to U.C. Santa Cruz as the first woman dean of any faculty in the U.C. system.

Helene was an influential second wave feminist scholar, and institution-builder at UCSC, at Kresge College---where she served as Provost for five years---and in the Santa Cruz community. After her husband's death in 2001, she met, loved, and lived in Santa Cruz with her heart's joy, Sheila Namir, a psychoanalyst, whom she married in 2016.

Helene's unique combination of rigor and warmth, political activism, commitment to community, and good humor leaves behind her an immense community of students, colleagues, mentees, and compatriots in Santa Cruz and across the nation. They have been inspired and empowered by her humane wisdom, passion for justice, and love of beauty. She is survived by her beloved spouse Sheila; her sister Glorya Hale of Albuquerque, New Mexico; her sons Eben, Damon and Seth; and her three grandchildren, Dylan, Pierre, and Morgan Moglen. Donations in honor of her memory will be gratefully received by the Center for Cultural Studies of the University of California, Santa Cruz.

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