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BEQUEST FURTHERS THE LEGACY OF ESTEEMED KEAN UNIVERSITY ALUMNA

UNION, NJ – Throughout her distinguished life, the late Ruth Rhoda Socol Horowitz '30 H '84 genuinely cherished Kean University. She was always more than delighted to trumpet everything that her alma mater (then known as Newark Normal School) brought her: a college diploma, an honorary doctorate and, most importantly, a highly successful and rewarding career in education that exceeded 50 years. In addition to her kind words, Ruth had an extremely generous heart, which led her to make multiple major gifts to Kean over the years – the most significant of which has been revealed in the recent months since her 2005 passing.

The “Grande Dame of Kean University,” as she has come to be known, left approximately \$2 million, *half* of her estate, to the Foundation and the Alumni Association. Foundation President Doug Nelson is grateful for the donation. “This gift is a wonderful act of kindness from a truly wonderful person,” Nelson said. “Ruth has proven to be a true friend and supporter of the University, and through her generosity, we can further our mission for many years to come.”

Prior to her estate donation, Horowitz also established a scholarship in the name of herself and her late husband, Leon; and contributed to having both the University’s alumni house as well as a lecture hall named in her honor. The Ruth Horowitz Alumni House serves as home to the Alumni Association, as well as a conference and banquet hall. The lecture facility is fittingly located in Hennings Hall, home of the University’s College of Education.

Alumni Association President Ed Esposito is also pleased that Horowitz opted to leave her legacy with Kean University. “I was fortunate enough to call myself a close friend of Ruth’s, and she was always one of the most humble, caring and giving people whom I’ve ever had the pleasure of knowing,” Esposito said. “This donation is the ultimate example of her love for her alma mater.”

Plans for utilization of the donations have not yet been announced.

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