

Rosie was born Rosemary Naylor on 21st February 1932, the third of eleven children born to Thomas and Laura Naylor in Islington, London.

Rosie was very close to her younger, and older siblings, who loved her beyond measure. On behalf of all of Rosie's brothers and sisters, her brother Tommy said: "We feel proud and lucky to have had such a special sister, she was loved and cherished by all of us," and Rosie's love for them in return was boundless.

While it wasn't easy to be one of 11 children growing up in wartime London, Rosie's childhood was filled with laughter and love thanks to her close-knit family. When Rosie was just 16, she met her future husband John Dennis Evans and they married on 23rd March 1950 shortly after Rosie's 18th birthday.

Rosie and Dennis achieved a lot during their 42-years together, from their three sons: John, Tim, and Terry, to renovating the family farmhouse in Wales, where John was born, to building a business that is still operational to this day. And while they separated in 1992, they became good friends again during Rosie's later years.

Rosie has 9 grandchildren, and 6 (soon to be 7!) great grandchildren whom she was notoriously proud of. Most conversations with her would eventually come back to her grandchildren, and all the wonderful adventures and achievements they have each accomplished; her grandchildren felt equally as proud of their darling Nanny Rose.

It has become a bit of a cliché to describe deceased relatives as 'one of a kind,' but everyone here today – both physically and over live stream – will agree that Rosie was a rare gem. Brave, strong, proud, fun, kind and generous beyond measure – Rosie was the mum, sister, nan, aunt, and friend that most people could only ever dream of.

Rosie spent the last 17 years of her life happily living with her youngest son, Terry, and his family, who took wonderful care of her. And while her passing wasn't an easy one, she passed in her own bed, surrounded by love. A big 'thank you' goes to her daughter-in-law, Karen, who treated Rosie as if she was her own mother, and to her niece Maureen, who bravely and graciously stayed by Rosie's side until the very end – you were very special to her, Maureen.

Family meant everything to Rosie, and there is nothing she wouldn't have done to support or protect them. Knowing how much Rosie adored her family makes today even more heartbreaking, because so many of you cannot be here to honour her. For those of you listening in, please take comfort in the fact that you meant the world to Rosie, and she knows how much you love her.

As she once told her granddaughter, Georgia, Rosie had: "Enough love in her heart to go around the entire world," and those whose lives were touched by the depth and breadth of her love will know that to be true. She was an Angel on Earth, so now we can rest assured that she's in heaven with Donna, Flo, George, Eileen, Peenal, Peter, Betty, Tommy, Cheryl, Shirley and Rosie's baby daughter. Hopefully not causing too much trouble, and hopefully not asking anyone up there to: "Get the manager!"

They just don't make them like you anymore, Rose! Rest in peace, darling.