

**Ms. Lillian Ruocco W2PMA - Bronx, NYC - Pleasant Memories Always!** Ours is for you herewith. Lillian was a cheerful shut-in who loved her radio and the YLRL. This is a short story of a lady from the Bronx, living with her mother and dad in the 30 Census (Dr. Abe Weinstein, a Yiddish eye physician who emigrated from Russia. Lillian eventually married and lived in NYC on Undercliffe Avenue. Lil spent many happy hours on the radio and encouraged a gravely ill youngster in 1949.



There was a radio rally that Lillian organized on her own to provide cheer and encouragement to a young neighbor boy about to undergo heart surgery. Our sample QSL card recently found says a lot about the persona of Ms Ruocco. May you have Pleasant Memories Always.

It was learned Lillian was proud to serve in the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS) and American Women's Voluntary Service (AWVS) which was the precursor to the Civil Defense. She suffered from complications following pneumonia.

Ms Ruocco pictured here, earned her ham license through the AWVS Program. The war passes by and we are in the late 40's. Our subject Lillian was dedicated to her country and in her diminished capacity took on another major important task.

Lil's young neighbor boy Martin Gold remembers the scrambled TV screen with the "CQ Ten, CQ Ten, this is W2PMA.

Heard on their first TV at the Gold apartment a Dumont set with the gigantic 15 inch screen! They enjoyed test patterns and material transmitted from the Empire State building in the fledgling TV

industry. The tests were viewed at the Gold family apartment in the Bronx which was incredible by their view point.

In 1949 our 11 year old youngster Martin Gold of the Bronx was told to rest as much as possible by their heart specialist. To have a tutor and couldn't engage in strenuous activity.

Seems he needed a then rare heart operation from a birth defect. Lillian (W2PMA) became young Gold's (Elmer) holding a marathon operation over the air enlisting the faithful to send cards to Martin's hospital room wishing him get well greetings. The

hospital room was full of mail and the Gold's were elated that the ham community came through with such overwhelming kindness. Lillian confined to the house had achieved a most successful job and was humbled by the turn out to her project.

Gold came through the operation successfully and never forgot Lillian's kindness. He had lost touch with her and had entered college and relocated out west. Such is life with relationships missed but memories held close to the heart. In later years he (Gold) learned Lillian had expired a long time ago

and the generosity she showed towards Gold was treasured still after all those years. It was refreshing to learn Lillian enjoyed her ham radio and kept in touch with the outside world, enjoying her membership with the NYC YL Radio Club, W2RAQ Catherine president. It is believed

the youngster Martin Gold became a Film and TV production Manager in Southern Cal (WA6UVD) Lil Appeared in QST Silent Key column Nov. 1950, long live her memory! W8SU added 2012

