

*The SDSA mourns the passing of our Business Member, stalwart supporter and friend **Rhoda Treibitz, CEO of Hollywood Piano Company** who passed Saturday March 27th due to complications from a rare cancer called leiomyosarcoma. In addition to be an amazing mother and business woman, Rhoda was an incredible musical talent and was an accomplished singer, actress, director and teacher.*

*As a singer she sang a wide range of music from the great American popular songbook and from Broadway musicals. Her singing career started as a teenager in New York's famed Catskill Mountains. She married at a young age to Irwin Treibitz and shortly after marrying she devoted herself to being a full time mom. While a full time mom, Rhoda auditioned and got the role of "Babe" in Pajama Game. This was her first time acting and she proved to be a natural. She went on to get what would become her signature role of Mama Rose in Gypsy, playing this role with hundreds of performances over her lifetime including the final national tour prior to Tyne daily taking Gypsy to Broadway. Her other major roles included Golda in Fiddler on the Roof, Dolly in Hello Dolly, Joanne in Company, and Auntie Mame in Mame.*

*Rhoda had a great career as a singer, as part of the group Soundstreet and as a solo performer making her New York debut at the famed Riverboat room at the Empire State building. She went on to return to the Catskill Mountains playing the big rooms in all of the major hotels with comics the likes of Freddie Roman, Alan King and Jackie Mason. One of the novelties of her act was having her teenage son Glenn as the pianist and the conductor for her. Her solo singing career culminated with a sold out triumphant concert at New York's famed Roseland Ballroom. She co-hosted a New York Radio program, and New York area TV show as well as being a frequent guest on the Joe Franklin TV talk show. As a singer her final live show was in Italy. At the request of Paolo Fazioli Rhoda was honored to be asked to perform for the reception of the opening of the Fazioli concert hall in April of 2005.*

*Over her lifetime Rhoda generously donated her talents to many charities ranging from Cystic Fibrosis, to The Cancer Society, to*

*Jewish relief and welfare organizations to numerous telethon performances. She was also known as a talented director and teacher having directed many plays and musicals and teaching musical theater to budding artists at both Mt. San Antonio College and Citrus College. And for the SDSA, Rhoda was always ready to provide a piano for events and parties. With Glenn playing beautiful music at multiple events providing elegance and style to so many SDSA functions.*

*In 2000 Rhoda assumed the position of CEO of Hollywood Piano Company upon the passing of Irwin Treibitz. Rhoda had never been a business woman before but plunged herself in with both feet and loved the piano business and made many dear friends. Her role at Hollywood Piano included being the liaison between the company and the entertainment industry where she is widely known and loved. Under her leadership the Hollywood Piano Company became a leading donor of pianos to all worthy charities, organizations, and community based music organizations. Her compassion, kindness, caring and joy for life will be her lasting legacy.*

*She is survived by her three children Glenn, Scott and Cheryl, her mother and her brother. The funeral for Rhoda was Monday March 29 at Shalom Memorial Park and Mortuary Sylmar. Her service was attended by numerous friends, loved ones and colleagues with many spoken tributes to her talent, kindness and character In lieu of flowers please send your donations to the National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation at NLMSF Donations, 18623 County Rd 12 S, Foley, AL. 36535-3738 - go to their website for more info. –*

*<http://www.nlmsf.org/index.html>*