

Bio: Charlotte Rubens Bloomberg

Mother of New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and New York City Commissioner of the NYC Commission for the United Nations, Consular Corps & Protocol, Marjorie B. Tiven.

Born in Jersey City in 1909, Mrs. Bloomberg graduated from high school at the age of 16 and earned a bachelors degree in accounting from New York University in 1929, a time when few women attended college. She took a job as an auditor at Breakstone dairy. In 1934, she married William H. Bloomberg, whom she had met while working at Breakstone. After marrying, she stayed home to raise her children while her husband, William Bloomberg, continued to work as a bookkeeper at the dairy. When William passed away while his son was in college, Charlotte went back to work, while also continuing to volunteer her time and energy on behalf of the community.

In his 1997 autobiography, Michael Bloomberg wrote that his mother taught him the value of hard work, intellectual curiosity and ambition to achieve his goals. He noted the importance she placed on family togetherness, including having a proper family dinner every night because, "we've got to take care of each other."

"Our mother's unimpeachable integrity, fierce independence, and constant love were gifts that profoundly shaped our lives and the lives of so many who knew her," wrote her son. "She taught me you've got to do what you've got to do, and to do it without complaining."

Throughout her life, Mrs. Bloomberg remained an active community volunteer in her hometown of Medford, MA and was known for maintaining a vigorous schedule until a few years before her passing. She served as co-president of her synagogue, Temple Shalom, when she was in her nineties.

In 2008, Mrs. Bloomberg and her two children visited Baltimore to tour the children's center her family funded in her name at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. In 2003, they also traveled to Israel to dedicate, in her name, a maternity and pediatric center at Hadassah Hospital, one of the many causes that she and her family supported.

She passed away in June 2011 at the age of 102 years old.

Sources: AP Obituary, New York Times Obituary