

Autobiographical Notes – (Written by Anne Rudin)

Personal family background:

1. Eldest of 3 children born to Philip Noto and Angelina Macri. Father immigrated from Sicily, fought in World War I with U.S. forces in France –Infantry, Company G, Third Marne Division.
(The Marne is a river in France, the site of the second battle of the Marne where allied forces stopped a massive German offensive and launched a counter offensive that lasted until the Armistice on November 11, 1918.)
Mother was born in America, her parents part of a massive migration of Sicilians from Messina, largely the town of Gesso, who settled in the town of Hammonton, N.J. , and whose descendants still farm the land there.
2. Siblings: sister Mary Jane Mills, brother Joseph Noto, and nephews Philip McCarthy, Leslie Mills; Tim, Ryan, and Andrew Noto.
3. Married for 56 years to Edward Rudin, M.D., whom she met when he was a medical student at Temple University. A practicing child psychiatrist in Sacramento, Professor of Psychiatry at U.C .Davis Medical School and an ardent peace activist,
active member of Physicians for Social Responsibility and the United Nations Association, Sacramento Chapter, he died in 2003.
4. Children: Nancy Robinson; Barbara Rudin; Carol White (Douglas); Jay Rudin.
Grandchildren: Angela Silva, Michelle Sanguinetti (Ronnie Jr.); Melissa White; Jeffery White (Gabriella). Great grandchildren: Ronnie Sanguinetti III and Anthony Sanguinetti, Gianna White and Aria White.

Education:

First grade at First Road School in Hammonton

A four room school house for First to Fifth grades, 2 classes in some of the rooms: No indoor plumbing, sandy playground.

Attended Philadelphia schools:

St. Donato's Catholic School

William Cullen Bryant Elementary School

West Philadelphia High School

Post-secondary Education:

Temple University School of Education – received B.S. in Education
Temple University Hospital School of Nursing – Registered Nurse
University of Southern California - Master of Public Administration
Honorary Doctor of Laws degree, Golden Gate University, 1990

Professional Career:

Nursing educator, Temple University School of Nursing and later Mt. Zion Hospital School of Nursing in San Francisco.

Community activities:

Took a break from professional activities while raising a family of 4 children, becoming active in the communities of Riverside and Sacramento: (partial list)

League of Women Voters, serving as president of the Riverside and Sacramento Leagues as well as the LWV California;

Riverside Mental Health Assoc. and Riverside Community Council;
Medical

Auxiliaries (later renamed Medical Alliances)

American Association of University Women; PTAs; Planned Parenthood;
American Red Cross, serving the blood bank in Riverside; teaching

Mother

and Child Care and training Nurses Aides in Sacramento working at what then was the County Hospital; (later becoming UC Davis Medical Center)

Political Career:

1971 – first elected to Sacramento City Council under new City Charter section which provided for election of council members by districts and mayor at-large; was the first woman to win election to the city council in 20 years, and only the 3rd since the city incorporated in 1921.

Re-elected to the Sacramento City Council in 1975 (with one opponent) and 1979 (with no opposition).

1983 – elected mayor of Sacramento (against tough opposition); re-elected 1987 (with some opposition); served until 1993.

Highlights during terms on City Council:

1. Waterfront protection: opposed development along the Sacramento River levee (see clip. Bee 12-1973 – council voted to deny development proposal - and continued to pursue this interest when, as mayor, organized Friends of the Sacramento River Greenway which continues to promote riparian greenways and participate in planning for greenways along the Sacramento River levee as part of current (2005-7) waterfront development.
2. Trash Haulers: proposed changes in city policy regarding the method of granting trash hauling licenses, breaking up a monopoly that stifled competition and shut out small, one-truck businesses, mostly minority owned. That was before the big corporations got into the business. Council approved proposed changes, and attorney - the respected Nat Colley - for SAWDCO - did not fight it.
3. Emergency Ambulance Service was at that time provided by private companies. There was no formal dispatch system, often with the result of multiple responders to the same incident, expensive and wasteful. I proposed that Sacramento County assume responsibility for all dispatching and financing of emergency ambulance service. Council approved proposed changes which resulted in more efficient routing of emergency calls and equitable rates. In the 90s, the city fire department began to provide emergency ambulance service, with professionally trained paramedics on board.
4. Ban on smoking in public places: working with Dorothy and George Bullen, backed by Group Against Smoking Pollution (GASP), and Lung Association, with Supervisor Sandy Smoley for the County of Sacramento, introduced Sacramento's first no smoking ordinance. This became the foundation for a series of ordinances to follow, extending the ban to just about everywhere, working with Councilwoman Lynne Robie.
5. Served on boards of numerous regional Joint Powers Agencies, notably the Sacramento Regional Area Planning Council (SRAPC), precursor to Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), where planning began for Sacramento's Light Rail System. Chaired the Northeast Corridor Committee which did the studies leading up to the series of approvals needed to establish the rail system.
6. Status of Women: Contributed actively to improve the status of women and services for women and children.
Was elected to the Sacramento City Council during the height of the feminist revival (1971 and on), when special efforts were being made to get women elected and appointed to policy boards and into non-traditional occupations.

As a member of the City Council, along with male members who were of like mind, was able to assist and support women in upward mobility who would serve as role models to encourage other women to break out of the mold and build credibility with the public. In 1973, was a cofounder of California Elected Women's Association for

Education and Research (now known as California Women Lead) along with other elected and appointed women statewide.

Highlights of Mayoral years, 1983-92:

In 1982, Mayor Phil Isenberg went on to the California Assembly, leaving a vacancy on the Sacramento City Council. I decided to run for the position of Mayor – won that seat in November of 1983, re-elected to another term in November 1987, serving until 1992.

Did not hesitate to tackle issues that were controversial.

Examples:

Sports arena: this issue was tied in to rezoning agricultural land in North Natomas for urban development. Opposed it because the city had needs in many older areas and had only a year or so earlier adopted a resolution to not consider rezoning the North Natomas area for another ten years.

Because of heavy pressure from sports fans and developers, all available city resources were directed toward drafting a land use plan that had so many negative impacts that nearly 50 mitigation measures would be needed to implement it. Lynn Robie and I were the only members who voted against it.

Developer did not have funding for needed infrastructure improvements. People who had invested in land early on had to sell it because they could not afford to continue to pay the mortgages with no payback in sight.

However, the arena did get built, since the city council insisted that the developers show their good faith by building that part first.

In 1992, the year I left office, a new, updated and more carefully constructed land use plan was presented to the city council and adopted unanimously. It was followed by the formation of the Natomas Basin Conservancy on whose board I served to oversee the implementation of a Habitat Conservation Plan for the region.

Military bases: In 1984 I created a stir when I asked to have an appointment scheduled with the head of the Office of Economic Adjustment at the Pentagon, on the annual Chamber of Commerce's Capitol-to-Capitol trip. I wanted to know what kind of assistance would be available for cities and counties in the event that military bases were closed. The Chamber of Commerce had been working for years to keep all of them open, but the world was changing and bases had been closing across the nation since 1960, with more closures to come.

When a base was closed because it was no longer needed for national defense, it was as if a major industry had shut its doors. There would be economic consequences that a city must be prepared for. I wanted us to be prepared for that eventuality.

When finally our time came, with McClellan AFB, Mather AFB and the Sacramento Army Depot, I refused to contest the decision of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

I knew that it did not have to be disastrous for Sacramento, an opinion not shared by others in the community, but early planning, which I advocated, could avoid severe economic impacts on the region. I took a lot of criticism, as well as praise, for that stand, and in time I was proved to be right. Some said I was prescient when I went to the Pentagon in 1984.

The bases closed and we survived, like many others across the country. The transition from military to domestic uses was neither simple nor easy, but it has been successful.

Assault weapons ban: worked with the Chief of Police to get a local ordinance banning the sale and possession of assault weapons in the City of Sacramento. I did it for reasons of public safety and because I felt a moral obligation to support the mayor of Stockton (although she had not asked me to) who sought a ban in her city after a dreadful rampage by Patrick Purdy, an unstable gunman, in the play yard at Cleveland Elementary School in Stockton (1-17-89). Banning guns in one city would be useless if they were easy to get in neighboring cities. This was a useless though well intentioned gesture, perhaps even a bit naive, but I wanted to demonstrate that taking a position on gun control did not lose elections.

Regrettably, other cities did not follow our example. Not long after it was enacted, the State Legislature enacted one statewide, preempting the local law.

Gay Rights: Efforts began in early 1970s and continued until completion of terms as mayor and beyond. Nothing was done according to a plan, but opportunities presented themselves for me to advocate for gay rights and for the next 21 years I did it steadily and accomplished change incrementally. This was consistent with ideal of equal rights for all as set forth in Equal Rights Amendment.

It began with my going to see the Chief of Police, just after I was first elected to the City Council in 1971, on behalf of a constituent who felt he was being discriminated against because he liked to wear women's clothing. It continued until the end of my second mayoral term in 1992 when I was successful in enacting a domestic partners ordinance.

This was not my final act, as termed by the local newspaper, which referred to it as my "crowning achievement." Before I left office I got council support for the enactment of a cap on campaign contributions, not the first such provision to have been written into law in the previous decade. Others were all nullified by court ruling or something that superceded them, but they certainly did not have the significance to so great a population as did the gay rights laws we passed.

Women's Rights: Stood up for women's rights, in city employment as well as in the community. Helped female employees organize a women's caucus to lend support to women, especially in the non-traditional jobs, who were being harassed by male employees. Supported on-site child care for employees in private workplaces, the first one being the Hilton Hotel whose female manager saw the need and established the first one in Sacramento, for her employees.

Campaign Finance Reform: a hopeless cause. Introduced and enacted several local campaign finance ordinances that were soon overturned by court decisions.

Upon retirement from public office, AR was honored by the League of Women Voters, which established the Anne Rudin Scholarship Fund to commemorate the accomplishments of former Sacramento Mayor Anne Rudin and to enable other women to pursue higher education in the fields of public administration and public policy.

Closing: The most important accomplishment was, with husband Dr. Ed Rudin, raising four children who have social consciences and who have, in turn, instilled them into their own children. All four are self-sufficient, as are their children, and engaged in worthwhile endeavors and careers of value to the communities in which they live. They with their spouses have been of help to me, to each other and to the community.