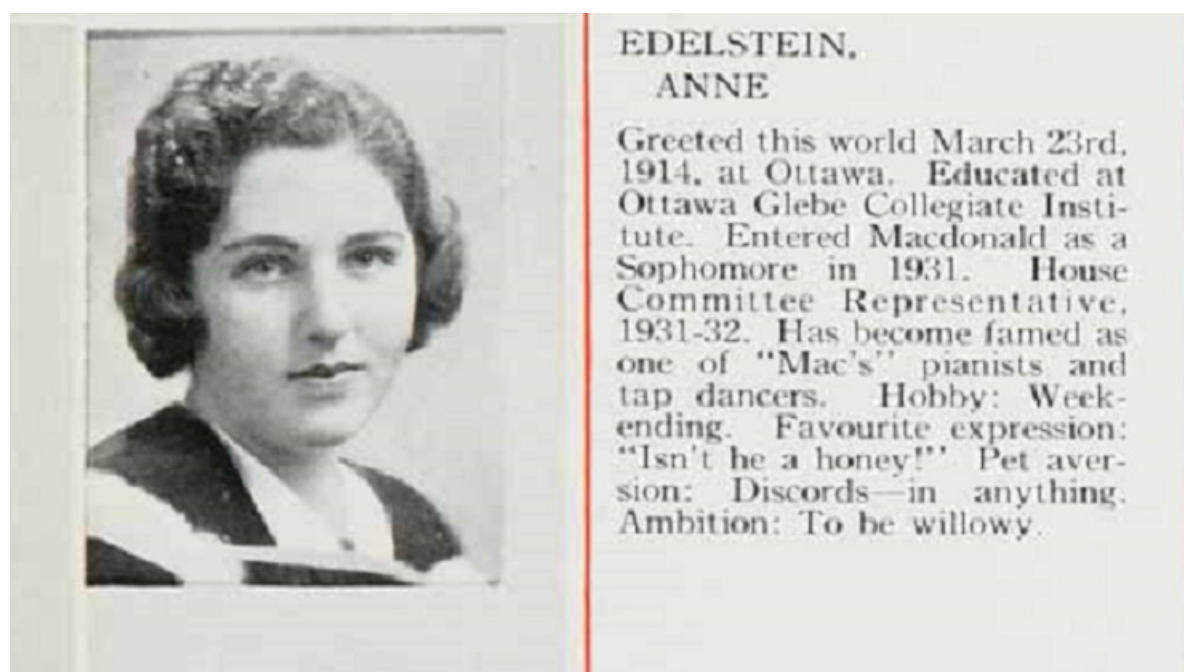




Anne Edelstein Shapira

ANNE EDELSTEIN SHAPIRA was born in Ottawa, Canada in 1914. Her parents were both born in Manchester, England and immigrated to Canada before she was born. Anne earned a degree in Household Science from McGill University in 1934 and later attended Montreal General Hospital for postgraduate study.



Anne's photo in the McGill University yearbook



A Shapira family gathering

Anne recalls that each of the Shapira boys took charge of one of the family's department stores and lived in the town where their store was located. David ran the family store in Harrodsburg and, after they were married, Anne joined him there to make their home. Despite there only being one other Jewish family in Harrodsburg at the time, Anne recalls,

"We were well accepted in the family, and I cannot complain of any anti-Semitism at all in that little town."

During this time, Anne periodically traveled to Kentucky to visit her aunt Rachel, who was married and living with her mother-in-law. On a visit in 1935, Anne didn't just enjoy time with her aunt, she also met the man she would later marry, David Shapira. It was also during this visit that her ill mother-in-law introduced her to Dr. David Cohen, who later offered her a job at the Jewish Hospital in Louisville. Anne recalls the joy she felt at the possibilities:

"The minute I met David, I fell in love... So, when I was offered the job, I was thrilled and delighted, because I wanted to marry Dave, and this was the only way I--I felt that I could stay here and be courted, and make plans to get married"

The following year, Anne moved to Kentucky, accepted a position as a dietician at the Jewish Hospital planning the kosher meals for the private patients, and entered a courtship with David Shapira.

They kept kosher by buying food in Louisville, even though it took nearly two hours to make the trip. For holidays such as Passover, Anne's mother-in-law, Annie Shapira, would host the entire family despite the differing levels of Jewish observance among the brothers.

Although she was not personally involved in the family business, Anne recalls the transition as the Shapira brothers closed their stores to begin a new venture with the opening of Heaven Hill, the family's bourbon brand. She says,

"they were in the right place at the right time, because Prohibition was over."

Anne passed away on August 6th, 2017. May her memory be for a blessing.