IN MEMORIAM: Edward H. Rosen

Edward H. Rosen, a longtime member of Temple University’s Board of Trustees who played an integral role in the founding of the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, died Oct. 1, 2014. He was 87.

Mr. Rosen was a businessman, philanthropist and Temple trustee.

He is regarded as an integral force in the creation of STHM. In 1998, Mr. Rosen was appointed by then-Temple President Dr. Peter Liacouras to head a task force that would determine the university’s response to Philadelphia’s rapidly expanding hospitality industry. The task force’s mission was to research and make a recommendation on the future of tourism and hospitality as an academic program at Temple University.

The result: The School of Tourism and Hospitality Management was founded.

With the help of Mr. Rosen, STHM first opened its doors with six faculty members, three staff members and only 120 students. In the years since, it has expanded to 25 faculty members, 15 staff and nearly 1,000 students, while establishing itself as a preeminent center for innovative education and research. STHM is home to the internationally recognized Sport Industry Research Center and more than $1 million in externally funded grants and projects.

Mr. Rosen served as an original member of STHM's Dean's Council.

"Through Mr. Rosen’s leadership and unwavering support, STHM was created July 1, 1998," said STHM Associate Dean Dr. Elizabeth Barber, who co-founded the School and served with Mr. Rosen on the task force. “He was a fierce supporter as the years passed. He was on the STHM Dean’s Council and made annual contributions to the School’s scholarship fund. His pleasant demeanor will surely be missed.”

“He was a jovial, friendly man who cared deeply for Temple University,” said Fox School of Business Deputy Dean Dr. Rajan Chandran, who worked closely with Mr. Rosen on Liacouras’ task force. “He will be missed greatly.”

Mr. Rosen was active in Philadelphia’s Jewish community. He provided $8 million to fund the construction of Temple’s Edward H. Rosen Hillel Center for Jewish Life at Norris and 15th streets. He served as a past president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, and was a board member of the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, in Bryn Mawr, Pa., where he resided.

—Christopher A. Vito