



## Elaine S. Deme

November 8, 1930 - February 9, 2016

Elaine Sams Deme died on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She was born on November 8, 1930 in Bay City, Michigan to James F. and Adele Sams.

Mrs. Deme earned a BA in political science from Mount Holyoke College in 1952. She went on to work for the United States Foreign Service and lived abroad in Lebanon; Cairo, Egypt; and Paris, France. After moving to New York City, she met and married Dr. Laszlo Deme in 1962, and they moved to Sarasota, FL in 1966. In 1974, Mrs. Deme took a position as a social worker for Epilepsy Services of Southwest Florida and soon became the Executive Director, a position she held until she retired in 1995. Mrs. Deme was an active member of the Mount Holyoke Club of Southwest Florida and served as president for many years after her retirement.

A passionate advocate for her clients, Mrs. Deme was known for her determination, a sharp mind, cheerful nature, and generous hospitality. She enjoyed cooking, following politics, travel, reading, and spending time with her grandchildren. Her life made a significant difference in thousands of others, and her memory is a blessing.

Mrs. Deme is survived by son, Andrew Sr. (Nora); daughter, Elizabeth Deme Dilts (Jonathan); grandchildren, Andrew Jr., Alexander (Madeline), Jonathan

Dilts, Alexandra Dilts, Senna Lamb, and Elissa Lamb; and sister, May Sams Ameen. She was predeceased by her husband, Dr. Laszlo Deme; their infant daughter, Elaine Irene; and brothers, James and Robert Sams. Visitation will be held from 6-8 pm on Friday at Toale Brothers Funeral Home, 40 N. Orange Avenue, Sarasota. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be celebrated at 11 am on Saturday at Siesta Key Chapel, 4615 Gleason Avenue, Sarasota. Memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Foundation of America.