



## Patricia "Pat" Jean Koch Wright

March 24, 1925 - February 16, 2023

Patricia ("Pat") Jean Koch Wright, 97, passed away Feb. 16, 2023 in Sarasota, Florida. Pat is survived by her daughter Gail, grandson, Steven (Michelle) Duerst, great-granddaughter, Emma Duerst, and granddaughter Jenna Duerst (fiancé Phil Baier). Also surviving is her son, Timothy (Ann) Wright, and grandchildren Heather and Eragon Vick, Amy, Jasmine, Kayla Taylor and Ava Ridge.

Pat was born March 24, 1925 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to Benjamin Lafayette Koch and Maria Paulina Stein, the baby of eleven siblings who all preceded her death.

Pat was a successful amateur competitive golfer, winning nine Fort Wayne Women's Golf tournament titles. She still holds the record today for three back-to-back wins. Pat also won the Indiana State Women's Golf Tournament in 1968. She achieved 11 holes-in-one and played many golf courses around the world.

In the early 1950's Pat and her then-husband Bill, opened Wright's Driving Range and Miniature Golf in Fort Wayne which is still operational today under current owner Bobick's.

In 1975 Pat and her business partner purchased Gulf Gate Golf Club in Sarasota Florida, one of the first golf courses solely owned by women in the

United States. She added an "island-green" on and loved to garden and tend to the courses. Pat retired in 2001 and continued her love of gardening. She also volunteered at Meals on Wheels for ten years.

Preferred memorials to the American Junior Golf Association ([www.ajga.org](http://www.ajga.org)) or a replantable flower or plant in honor of her love for gardening.

A celebration of life will be held on March 10, 5:30 p.m. at Faith Church, 1201 N. Beneva Road, Sarasota, 34232

# Previous Events

## A Celebration of Life

MAR 10. 5:30 PM (ET)

Faith Church  
1201 N. Beneva Rd  
Sarasota , FL 34232