



Ruth Gorton

December 18, 1929 - April 15, 2023

Ruth Gorton, 93, of Sarasota, died April 15.

She is survived by her daughter Amy Gorton of Los Angeles; son Mark Gorton of New York City; grandchildren Mira, Zach, Addy and Samara; stepdaughter Jessica de Koninck; and stepson Ben Gorton (Anne Weismann) and their children Isabel and Henry de Koninck and Alex and Justin Gorton.

Born on December 18, 1929 in Stadecken, Germany, Ruth, her parents Morris and Klara Haas, and sister Hannah, later fled Nazi Germany, eventually settling on a dairy farm in Poughkeepsie, New York. Throughout her life, Ruth always said, the Haas family's arrival in America in January, 1936, was the most important day of her life.

After high school, Ruth graduated from the University of Chicago and moved to New York City where she began a career in Personnel at New York Hospital and later the Hospital for Special Surgery.

In 1963, Ruth met David Gorton and memorably introduced him to her parents on November 22, the day of President John F. Kennedy's assassination. They married March 12, 1964, started a family, and moved to Oradell, New Jersey.

Always direct and opinionated, Ruth did not suffer fools gladly. A

accomplished duplicate bridge player, she attained the rank of Life Master. This independent woman loved to attend lectures, visit museums and spend time with extended family. Together, she and her husband supported Democratic causes, attended the theater and symphony, and traveled the world.

After David retired, the couple spent several years as Snowbirds before moving full-time to Longboat Key, Florida. Once there, they embraced the community, attending musical and theatrical performances, and becoming long-time Florida Studio Theater supporters.

Following David's death in 2010, Ruth carried on with her own active life, read voraciously into her 90s, remained interested in current events, and moved into the nearby Sarasota Bay Club.

In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (www.plannedparenthood.org).