

Obituary

Dehra Denese Ruff went to be with her Lord on January 22nd, 2019, at the age of 93. Dehra passed away quickly during a respiratory event following a necessary surgery.

Dehra Denese Passino was born July 22nd, 1925, in Toledo, Ohio, the second child of George and Elma Passino. Her older brother was the late Daniel Passino of Toledo. She attended Waite High School in Toledo, and she was a beauty! Dehra married Robert O. Ruff in 1945. Bob served in the Navy during WWII and Korea, and the small family lived for a time in his port of San Diego. Later, Bob, Dehra, and their three boys, Jim, Chris and Jeff moved to Covina, California. For a year, Dehra served as First Lady of the Jaycee's in California, while Bob served as president. She worked as a secretary for several years to help make ends meet. Bob and Dehra were divorced in 1961. In the midst of struggling to raise her three boys as a single mom, Dehra was diagnosed with schizophrenia, which severely limited her ability to function in society and on her own. As a result, Dehra lived with her children or in special care facilities in California and Florida from her 50's to the end of her days. During the last 25 years, Dehra lived under the exceptional care of Tangerine Cove of Brooksville Assisted Living, and of Northbrook Health and Rehabilitation Center, both in Brooksville, FL.



Dehra always enjoyed when her children and grandchildren stopped in to see her. Even in her 90's Dehra's recollection of earlier days was still sharp, so it was a delight for her sons, their wives, and two of her grandchildren, Jesse and Erin and their families, to give her a surprise 90th birthday party.

Dehra is survived by her three sons: Jim (Jan) of Indianapolis, IN; Chris (Suzanne) of North Topsail Beach, NC; and Jeff (Susan) of Delmont, PA; 7 grandchildren: Yvonne (Dan) Hayden; Joel (Jen) Ruff; Tim (Lisa) Ruff; Amber Kruser-Ruff (Clark Whittemore); Shay Ruff; Jesse Ruff (Lily Mayfield); Erin (Andrew) Riggs; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Dehra will be cremated at Brown Funeral Home and Crematory, Crystal River, and a private family service will be held at a later date.

Brown Funeral Home and Crematory

Lecanto, Florida

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