



Gisela Rotraut Black

February 26, 1936 - May 12, 2026

Gisela Rotraut Black passed away on May 12, 2026, at Heron Point in Chestertown MD. She was 90 years old.

She was born on February 26, 1936, in Coburg, Germany, the daughter of the late Alexander Ortlepp and Kathe (Hohn) Ortlepp. She attended schools in Germany, and she spent a year in England as an Au pair to help with her English. Back in Germany she met the love of her life at a dance. She married Bruce Black in Coburg before moving to California and then later to Maryland in the early '60's. The two drove across the country with only a chest of drawers strapped to the back of their VW Bug and two small daughters in the back seat. A few years later a son was born. Gisela worked as an executive assistant at the University of Maryland for many years. Her love of animals and dachshunds was especially strong. She enjoyed the water and long walks. Spending time with her various German clubs and was a part of the Heron Point community for over 15 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

She is survived by her children: Kathrin Black, Kristina Learch, and Stephen Black; brother, Reiner Ortlepp; nephew Phillip Ortlepp, niece Hanna Noor grandchildren: Alexandra Gray, Aiden Learch, and Claire Learch; and one great-grandchild, Kit Alexander Gray. She was a loving and kind soul who will be greatly missed.