



Renate Anna Ruzich

FEB 20, 1926 - APR 19, 2020



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Renate Anna Ruzich, 94, of Orange, Virginia, passed away Sunday, April 19, 2020, peacefully after a long illness. Renate was born Renate Anna von Kuenheim on February 20, 1926, in East Prussia, Germany. Renate was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Rudolph Louis Ruzich, her parents, Sigfried von Kuenheim and Anna Paulini, her sister Karin von Kuenheim, and her brother Gert von Kuenheim. Renate grew up on a large family estate in East Prussia that had been a grant from the Catholic Church for service as Knights during the Crusades in the 14th Century. Since that time the von Kuenheim family continued the tradition, serving as officers in the world-renown Prussian Cavalry. Unfortunately, at the end of World War II, this came to an end, as the entire family was forced to flee from the advancing Soviet army on its push toward Berlin. She endured many incredible hardships as a teenager, after becoming separated from her family and making the journey to Berlin on her own. Once reunited with her family in Berlin, she worked as a model and translator for the Allied Forces, until she met the brash, young American Lieutenant that would become her husband. During Rudy's 23 years of service in the Army, the two of them travelled all over the world, as he was assigned to 17 different duty stations in places like Korea, Turkey, Formosa and Taipei. During that time she loved to explore the countryside, often on her own and preferably on horseback, and got to know these different cultures intimately. Rudy's final duty station was at the Pentagon, and after his retirement they moved to a farm in Culpeper, Virginia, where she continued her passion as an equestrian and a Dressage judge, earning national acclaim. Only when it became physically impossible for her to continue did she retire and eventually move to Orange, Virginia, where she would live for the rest of her days at the Dogwood Village senior living home. She is survived by her son Peter Ruzich of Culpeper, Virginia. Sadly, it is impossible to have funeral services in her honor because of the



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COVID-19 outbreak, but a memorial celebration of her life is tentatively planned for what would have been her 95th birthday, on February 20, 2021. She will be interred along-side the love of her life at the Culpeper National Cemetery on April 27, 2020. Unfortunately any graveside services will not be allowed. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Rappahannock Animal Welfare League, at 160 Weaver Rd., Amisville, VA 20106. An online guestbook and tribute wall is available at www.foundandsons.com Found and Sons Funeral Chapel of Culpeper is handling all arrangements



Tribute Wall

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DF

Dave Fleming posted:

She lived next door to us in Turkey when I was about 4 years old. My parents had a very sweet watercolor of two ornamental trees on a mountainside that she painted (it also has a red Chinese marking on it). When I asked about the picture years ago, I was told it was painted by our neighbor in Turkey. My mother said she was a wonderful person and very attractive. She claimed my father loved her, haha. I just pulled out the picture today, got her name, and did a little research on her. I was amazed to discover she had lived such a fascinating life. I'm so sorry to discover that she had so recently passed. Dave Fleming

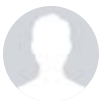
April 20 at 5:10 AM

LS

Leonard Stover posted:

I realize this is late coming but I only just realized that Frau Ruzich was gone. For many years she ran the riding program at Rock Creek stables in DC. It was here on one ride a service truck backfired and her beautiful horse Contessa reared and she was thrown on a rock and we imagined that would be the end of her riding. I was just a kid and took out trails etc. Upon watching her school and train I knew I had to learn more. With her signature long braid down her back and her positive kind manner it was something all of us would never forget. It would have given me great pleasure to just sit and talk with her once more. So I will close my eyes and see her ride in my memories. Thank you my mentor.

July 31 at 5:07 AM



Len Koczur posted:

Peter I really miss my friend Renate. She gave me many good pieces of bacon and other treats. Best were the way she gave me good pets and told me stories of growing up in Germany. I am so sorry that she is gone. Love Luke (the dog) and Len Koczur

May 12 at 1:05 PM

NP

Nancy Perry posted:

I met this woman on my first visit to House Hollow in Madison County, as many of you probably did if you had visited there. She was the prior owner of House Hollow. I told her once how much I appreciated the way she had maintained the House cemetery (even though there was only one stone, it sat in the middle of a lush green field in a surrounded by tall trees). She replied she felt that if she cared for our ancestors, she hoped someone some where in Germany was doing the same for hers. Nancy House Perry

May 2 at 4:55 AM



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KD

Kayla Dearmas posted:

Renate was a very special person in my life. My memories of her will be with me forever. My Condolences to her son Peter.

April 27 at 11:10 AM

CO

Carolyn M Osborne posted:

Renate was gifted writer and a valued member of our writers group for many years. Her wonderful spirit lives on in her works. Rest well, Renate.

April 26 at 8:13 AM

FC

Fran Cecere shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I loved knowing Renate. She joined our writing group years ago and we were fascinated by her story and we were so happy that she had it published. I will never forget her and the time we spent together at the Authors Meeting at the Culpeper Library. My prayers are with her family and her dear friends. Fran Cecere



April 26 at 7:26 AM

CB

Caryn M Block posted:

Renate was an inspiration sharing her stories and life with us. She survived so much and came out the other side a sweet, caring soul. I will miss her. Caryn Moya Block

April 26 at 7:11 AM

LP

Lois Griffin Powell April 26 at 2:45 PM

I will miss Renate and her stories. She was a gifted writer and I will miss her. Lois G Powell



Fran Cecere shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 26 at 7:26 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Renate by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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