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Martha Schoenberg Gelb

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Martha Gelb Obituary

Martha Schoenberg Gelb

101, of Indianapolis, passed away January 23, 2016. She was born in Vienna, Austria May

23, 1914, the only child of Sarah and Benjamin Schoenberg. In 1939, as anti-Semitism was escalating, she was encouraged by her parents to leave Austria and emigrate to Minneapolis where distant relatives welcomed her. Shortly after arriving she met Amiel Gelb and they married September 29, 1940, eventually settling in Indianapolis. ×

Once her children Ted and Elaine were both in school, she resumed her own education achieving a Bachelors in Science and a Masters Degree in education from Butler University. She taught physical sciences at Shortridge High School 1962-70 and Northview Junior High School 1970-80. A life long devoted educator she also contributed her talents to Beth El Zedeck Religious School 1956-72 and teaching English as a second language to Russian immigrants settling in Indianapolis. She was a proud and active member of the Beth El Zedeck Sisterhood, Indianapolis chapter of Hadasah, and Hooverwood Auxillary. Her greatest joy and devotion was to her family and ever expanding sphere of friends. She was a skillful communicator and continued to engage with those around her until her final moments. She was preceded in death by her husband Amiel Gelb and her son Theodore Benjamin Gelb. She is survived by her daughter Elaine Gelb MD (Pittsburgh, PA) and daughter in-law Christine Gelb (Chicago, IL).

Funeral Services will be held Tuesday, Jan 26 at Noon at Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary with burial to follow in Beth El Zedeck North Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions can be made to Hooverwood Foundation.

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