



Radmilla Todor Klashnya

November 25, 1931 - December 12, 2020

Klashnya Todor, Dr. Radmilla "Rada" Our beloved matriarch, born November 25, 1931 in Pristina, Yugoslavia, died on December 12, 2020, at home, in the arms of her family. She died the way she lived with grace, dignity, courage and self-determination. Rada is survived by her husband Alexander, daughters Ena (Dave) Carroll and Maya (Peter) Tester, five adored granddaughters, Maya (Brett) Baudinet, Ellie (Ed) Newman, Annalisa (Joe) Tester, Kristina (Eric) Chien, and Frances Carroll, and her two darling great-grandsons, Blake and Jackson. Fiercely loyal, fiercely loving, fiercely motivated, passionate, and intelligent, Radmilla lived a life rich with challenges, accomplishments and deep relationships. When she was ten, she wrote on a piece of paper that when she grew up, she would be a doctor and would live in the United States. She completed medical school at the University of Belgrade in 1956, at a time when women in medicine were still a relative rarity, with a specialty in infectious diseases. She met Sasha, her husband of 65 years in medical school, and together after 15 years of medical practice, they made the difficult decision to leave all that was dear and familiar and move their family to the United States. Though this required years of redoing residency and internships and specializations in a second language, they were determined to give their children the very best opportunities for a bright future. Radmilla completed her specialty in pediatrics and during 26 years at Group Health, was uniquely devoted to her young patients. She cherished the privilege of being a doctor and whenever she was out and about in grocery stores or

restaurants or shops her current and former patients embraced "Dr. K" with affection and memories of how lovingly she had helped them. But the children at the center of her world were her daughters, Ena and Maya, her five granddaughters, two great grandsons, and nieces and nephews. She doted on, fretted over, advised and nurtured two generations of strong, independent women and their friends, championing education and passing on wisdom, fashion and relationship advice, candid criticism and loving support. She mastered social media in her 80s to keep in daily contact with her family around the world, and was a mentor and surrogate mother and grandmother to so many. And she did all this in high heels and the height of fashion, always with her lipstick and Chanel No. 5 on, somehow effortlessly balancing the many roles of doctor, wife, mother, grandmother, mentor, strong woman. Although she never considered herself a "feminist", she was the definition of one, leading by example. Radmilla was a reader, a writer, lover of opera and poetry, an orchid whisperer, a movie buff, a lifelong learner, and a devoted friend. We will do our best to honor her by living our lives with purpose, passion and love, as she did. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date, when Covid fears ease and allow for a gathering of those who loved her. In lieu of flowers or memorials, please consider a donation to So Others May Learn, her granddaughter's non-profit organization, furthering the education of motivated young students in southern Africa. soothersmaylearn.org, a fitting tribute to one who so loved children and believed so deeply in the value of education.