



## Ruth Agnes Moorehead

December 9, 1924 - December 26, 2017

“BE REASONABLE, DO IT MY WAY”

Agnes Ruth Mary Powers Murray Moorehead, 93, of Fort Collins, died December 26. Ruth lived a life of joy, fellowship, teaching and love.

Born in New York City, Ruth also lived in North Tonawanda, NY; Vero Beach, FL; and Fort Collins, CO. She earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Hunter College in New York City and her Doctorate from Niagara University in Niagara Falls, NY. She had a full career as an educator and counselor before retiring from New York State. While teaching, she also managed to raise three children.

Agnes Ruth Mary Powers Murray Moorehead was a character. She enjoyed entertaining – take your finest crystal glass, rim it with lemon peel, drop it in, fill with ice and pour the Crown Royal freely. Her idea of a good time...Dance, sing, and have good conversation. Enjoy afternoon bridge. Yearn for spring & plant your flowers. Walk up and down Mountain Avenue. Stop in at work and visit her Larimer County friends, who made sure she was safe.

Ruth also traveled extensively – Ireland, England, Spain, Italy and the Vatican. She said they saw Italy on their knees. And the ruins of Greece and Turkey. She told stories of drinking tea and eating dates in a Bedouin tent in Las Palmas, Canary Islands. She cruised the Caribbean – turquoise waters of the islands, and the Panama Canal. Ruth loved the ocean, especially the Atlantic. She spent summers on Long Island and in beach houses in New Jersey. They soaked in the sun as she smothered all the kids in lots of zinc oxide, all while catching crab and lobster, and making us save money in a Skippy Peanut Butter jar.

Ruth was active at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church and taught and volunteered at Saint Joseph's School. Ruth loved to travel, garden, paint, quilt, and golfed into her 80's.

Ruth is survived by her daughter Christine Murray (partner Teresa Lupiezowitz); son, James Murray (wife Betsy); sister, Jane Harney; grandchildren Michael Murray (wife Darcy), Ryan Murray, Zachary Murray, Megan Pierce (husband Brian); great-grandchildren Aaron, Aiden, Cole, Christian, and Oliver; sister-in-law Winifred Murray; nephew Richard Harney (wife Pat) and their children, Jessica and Rich and spouses; nephew Gerard Harney (wife Susan) and their children, Kathleen, Judy and Tim and spouses; multiple great-grandnieces and a great-grandnephew. She was preceded in death by her parents Agnes and James Powers; sister Helen Neary; brother-in-law Tom Neary; and brother-in-law Dick Harney; son Paul Murray; stepson Jon Moorehead; husband Arthur Murray; and husband Robert Moorehead.

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to our local Alzheimer's Association, St. Joseph's School or the charity of your choice.

Great thanks to all the caregivers at Collinwood Memory Care. Mom was cared for with love and respect from all who worked with her. A heartfelt thanks to Suncrest Hospice for their care in her last week of life – such a special group of women. Another thanks to Volunteers of America. AND a special thanks to friends and family who took good care when it was needed most.

Ruth had much love in her life and many mountains to climb. She did it with courage & grace, fortitude and faith. All who knew her know this. We, her family, are proud and honored that you are reading this brief excerpt of Mom's life. Thank you.

# Events

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**JAN 18**   **Mass of Christian Burial**   02:00PM

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St. Joseph Catholic Church

300 W Mountain Ave, Fort Collins, CO, US, 80521

# Comments

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“ Yesterday, Enid and I were remembering something silly about Mrs. Moorehead. Enid told me that she was glad to have the flannel sheets back on her bed, because she wasn't crazy about the shiny summer sheet set on account of how it felt to her. That reminded me of how Ruth once told me that couldn't stand hotel towels. She said all that soft, fluffiness felt terrible to her. She told me that the perfect towel is one that you washed yourself, and that you hung out on the line to dry in the sun. "A little scratchy is nice, you know?", Ruth said to me, adding that she had, 'No business with those hotel towels', and then she made a fun series of noises that were meant to give me the feeling of 'yuck!'. When I told Enid that story, she said to me, "Well....you can't say this about everyone, but Mrs. Moorehead sure had a great life. I mean she moved here from New York, and she had so much fun all the time!"

**Esther S Croak** - January 09, 2018 at 11:52 PM



“ I live across the street from Ruth and am also a gardener. Years ago Ruth gave me a couple of hens & chicks. I planted them at the sunny end of our parking strip and they love it there. There are now hundreds of them. They're beautiful in all seasons so i can remember Ruth whenever i look at them.

**Susan Bonner** - January 13, 2018 at 05:26 PM



“ Chris, we were sorry to hear about your mother's passing. She was a joy to talk and visit with and had such a wonderful sense of humor. She used to tell Garrett she thought they were the only two alive since they were the only ones outside during the day. She was a wonderful person and lived a very full life based on the stories she shared with us. Our thoughts are with you during this time of loss.  
Barbara & Garrett

**barb** - January 03, 2018 at 01:42 PM



“ Ruth, a.k.a. Rudy toot, I love you and I'm gonna miss you so much. Who wanted to hang out with an elderly woman, I did as much as possible... all of my life, I've hung out with Ruth Christine Terry and all animals! Even if I was far away! I am so happy that you've been in my life, and we're always there for each other. For very happy times and very sad times, I love you all Laura Borkovec

**Laura Borkovec** - January 07, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ While I am not a blood relative I consider Ruth part of my family. I met her and Christine while I was working on my doctorate at CSU in Fort Collins. I was fortunate to have met Christine and Teri through a golf event and ended up spending many evenings for dinner and a few Thanksgivings with the family. Ruth would always spend a little time with me showing me some of her artwork in her apartment or

walking me through the garden. This time was special to me because I was having a hard time in my doctorate and Ruth was always there to pass along some encouragement. I finished my degree and Ruth, Christine and Teri helped me to celebrate the day with a lovely party at their house. Ruth loved a good party. She loved to bring out the silver, polish it up, and have everyone over. Ruth was there to celebrate two important events in my life - my graduation with my doctorate and my engagement to my husband. My husband and I got engaged on a mountain top in Colorado and before leaving we went by to share the news with Ruth, Chris and Teri. They were the first people we told. That was a fine afternoon as they celebrated with us. I have many fond memories of Ruth and feel very blessed that I had the opportunity to get to know her. I will always remember the fun time she and I had going to the Cheery Creek Country Club in Denver. I offered to drive Ruth to the US Women's Open Golf Tournament where she was going to meet Chris and Teri for an evening social at the country club. When we got there they initially were going to have us park a long ways away from the club house. Ruth told me to pull up to the guard station right next to the club house. She sweet talked the guard and the next thing I knew we were parking right next to the club house in the players lot. Even though I didn't have a ticket to attend the event she got me in and we proceeded to go have a cocktail before Chris and Teri arrived. We had a fun time that afternoon. I will smile when I think of Ruth.

**Wendy Kuhne** - January 01, 2018 at 03:36 PM

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“ I was tutored by Ruth when I was younger and besides the knowledge and help with school I received , I remember an amazing lady with the most beautiful garden. Even tho we were learning we read and talked outside on the back porch . There were so many stories and the pride of being Sagittarius. when I was done studying we would walk around the neighborhood and eat one or 2 apples from the trees.

Cale and Shirley Lindsay

**Cale** - January 01, 2018 at 11:45 AM

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“ Janice Mckittick, Friend lit a candle in memory of Ruth Agnes Moorehead



**janice mckittick, friend** - January 01, 2018 at 09:52 AM

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“ Dear Christine, I am so sorry for your loss. I met your Mom through my brother, Leo. We had tea with her at her lovely home and she made me feel so welcomed. Leo and she were kindred spirits in that they shared their love of the Atlantic Ocean, most things East Coast, and made good company for one another. Leo was very fond of Ruth and vice versa. May she Rest In Peace. With sympathy and condolences.  
Janice McKittrick

Janice A. McKittrick - December 31, 2017 at 02:28 PM

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“ Raising my kids next door to Mrs. Moorhead was a real pleasure. I learned all kinds of life lessons from Ruth, including learning to relax and enjoy life side by side with your children. She told me so many stories. Here is one for a winter day. Ruth told me that this is how she took her kids sledding. First: a running start. Second: a jump onto the sled lying down, face front. Third: a whoop and a welcome for the kids to pile on top!

Esther Croak - December 31, 2017 at 11:56 AM

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“ Ruth was a knowledgeable and very witty woman. When visiting Christine and seeing Ruth she would be so enthralled with her flowers. She would show me little things that she was amazed were sold at the dollar store. Going to a restaurant we sat around the piano and sang. She smoked a cigar telling us stories and having a grand time. She could spot a fine thread count shirt on a gentleman and notice a small rose budding. Ruth would talk to my friend Carol and me in a whisper as if it was a big secret when in truth would be something silly. Bless you Ruth and keep your spirit safe and close to all who love you.

laurie mahoney - December 30, 2017 at 01:13 PM

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“ Mom never finished her thesis for her doctorate.....

Christine Murray - December 30, 2017 at 11:04 AM

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“ I loved visiting Ruth, because she always was glad to see me. She had a great sense of humor and was always engaging in fun conversation. She always showed interest in anything happening in my life. I will miss her. I feel blessed to have known her.

Carol Dumbrosky - December 30, 2017 at 10:49 AM



“ Ruth’s first teaching position was in Harlem, New York City in 1948. PS 90. Diversity!

**Christine Murray** - December 30, 2017 at 07:15 AM



“ Ruth welcomed me and my brother Leo for a lovely cup of tea when I was in Fort Collins visiting. It was truly a joy to be in her company. She made me feel so welcomed. Leo and Ruth were kindred spirits - they loved all things East Coast. She was very fond of Leo and vice versa. A true gem and shining light. Rest In Peace Ruth.

**Janice McKittick** - January 01, 2018 at 09:43 AM