



Ruth Paula Cooper

March 28, 1931 - December 29, 2023

Ruth Paula Cooper passed away on December 29, 2023, in Fort Collins, Colorado. She was born to Reverend Henry and Anna Zimmermann on March 28, 1931 in the Hounan Province of China. She and her family fled China when the government deported all Christians. Ruth and her sister, Hanna Rose, ended up in an orphanage in Germany during WWII while her parents ended up in Cuba for the duration of the war. Ruth and her sister fled the Nazi's; traveled through Germany, France, and England and were reunited with their parents in the States through the USO. In June of 1953 she married Oscar William (Bill) Cooper, Jr. in Schooley's Mountain, New Jersey.

She is survived by her two children, Dr. Ruth Mannschreck (husband The Reverend Dr. Jack) of Waterford, MI and Kiel Cooper (wife Tauna) of Marietta, Georgia. She is survived by six grandchildren (Joshua David, Caleb William, Reverend Jeremiah John (wife Sara), Benjamin Joseph, Sarah Marie (husband Jeff), and Jonathan Paul) and four great grandchildren (William Joseph, Amos Daniel, Ezra James, and Asher David). She was preceded in death by her husband, The Reverend Dr. Bill Cooper; her parents, Rev. Henry and Anna Zimmermann; her sister, Hanna Rose Zimmermann; her brother, Ernst Theodor Zimmermann; and her granddaughter, Chava Norah Cooper.

Ruth received her Bachelor of Arts from Nyack College and her Masters Degree from University of Michigan. She taught English, German and

Psychology in Manchester and Pigeon, Michigan. She was a fiercely supportive presence during her husbands' pastoral ministry here in the states and traveled and taught Old Testament, Ruth, Ester and Childrens Education Courses with him as he served seminaries in the Ukraine, Moscow, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, and Haiti.

Ruth always had a creative mind, particularly for writing and art. She wrote several short stories and illustrated them for her children when they were very young. She took up china painting in the early 1970's and became an entrepreneur. Her company, Parrish Porcelain by Ruth, allowed her to paint and to teach painting until well into her eighties. During the course of her career, she became an International Master Porcelain Artist and traveled to Europe multiple times to teach professional porcelain artists in France (Limoges) and Germany (Meissen).

In 2017, Ruth wrote a young adult book, I Promise, based on her journey during WWII from Germany to the United States with her sister, Hanna Rose.

Her Memorial Service will be on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 10:30 am (Mtn time) at

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7755 Greenstone Trail, Fort Collins, CO 80525.

If you are unable to attend the service in person, we invite you to watch it by going to the church website at <https://www.redeemerconnect.com/> and clicking on the "Watch Live" button. Or go directly to <https://live.redeemerconnect.com/>.

Tribute Wall

MW

“*Ruth made a huge impression on my life. She took me under her wing and taught me the art of porcelain painting. She was extremely patient with me. I learned so much from her. I will miss her terribly, but I know her legacy in the porcelain art world will live on. Marsha Walker*

Marsha Walker - January 15, 2024 at 05:18 PM

PF

“*I have been inspired by Ruth through her friendship, biblical teaching, her book, 'I Promise', and our association at church. I admire her spirit and faithfulness and her ability to share her faith with generous love and grace. I have met some of her family, who all reflect the Christian family life that she and Pastor Bill established through the years while engaging in their productive careers. God Bless all of you. With love, Phyllis Fleming*

Phyllis Fleming - January 04, 2024 at 03:37 PM

SP

“*I had the wonderful pleasure of knowing Ruth at The Winslow and she was an irreplaceable friend and guardian angel. I felt like she was part of my family and I will miss her deeply. She had incredible talent with her china work and loved her flower painting. I thought of her often and would send her a pepperoni pizza to let her know I was still thinking of her after I moved out of state. Ruth gave me a ring holder that she painted and will treasure it forever. She is now up with Bill looking down on all the people she dearly loves. Love & Prayers my angel. Sandy Pantano*

Sandy Pantano - January 03, 2024 at 07:50 PM