



## Raymonde Marie Thompson

September 17, 1922 - June 8, 2017

Raymonde Marie Thompson (nee Durand) passed away peacefully at the age of 94 on June 8, 2017 at Blue Ridge Hospice in Winchester, VA.

Born in Paris, France on September 17, 1922, she was employed as a telephone operator in France during the Nazi occupation. She was dreaming of going to Viet Nam after the war to work with the government, but she fell in love and came to America as a war bride after WWII. She was married thirty five years to Walter Roland Thompson until his passing in 1980.

Arriving in America, she spoke no English and taught herself to read and write English and was proud to become an American citizen. A devoted wife, she worked at Chestnut Farms Chevy Chase Dairy as a bookkeeper before retiring to raise a family.

She loved to bake, can vegetables, raise and sell German Shepherds, Westies, Silky and Cairn terriers as well as helping with her husband's and children's horses. Her family and animals were her passion. She was a second mom to many of the children in Hunters Valley in Vienna, VA. With her husband she was instrumental in establishing the Hunters Valley Riding Club and Swimming Association. She spent many hours volunteering and helping with the horse shows, and Arlington-Fairfax Pony Club. Taught to ride by her husband, she was always participating in long trail rides, camping trips and

other activities with the neighborhood horse enthusiasts.

Moving to Loudoun County in the 70's to help her husband live his dreams; she maintained her farm until her mid-eighties before coming to live with her daughter and grand-son. A devout Catholic, she was always volunteering to help others in need.

She is survived by a daughter Marguerite A. Thompson and grandson Walter Phillip Thompson Beslove of Stephenson, VA. She is also survived by a son Donald Thompson, three additional grandchildren and nieces, nephews and cousins in France.

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ My parents and I were saddened to learn of Rae's passing. Our sincerest condolences to the whole family. My mother and Rae conducted a long correspondence after they both left Hunters Valley. Rae and Walter were such a wonderful pair of neighbors to the all of Hunters Valley. They were tireless in their devotion to making the neighborhood the best in the area. We can all remember the whole family out on their horses. Rae will be missed sorely by all who knew her.

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**Jessica Alves** - July 16, 2017 at 07:34 PM