



*Ilse Fuchs, 93, of Kings Park, New York,
passed away peacefully on September 12, 2026*

Ilse was born on March 29, 1933, in Grauendorf, a small German village in Poland to the late Daniel and Amanda Meyer. From an early age, Ilse was an active and spirited child who loved to climb, play, and explore. She shared a special bond with her older sister, Erna, and the two grew up together through some of the most difficult years in European history.

After World War II, Ilse, her mother, and Erna were taken to the Central Labor Camp in Potulice, where Ilse was often separated from her mother and sister. With the help of the Red Cross, her father was reunited with the family, placed in a transfer camp, and then bravely escaped across the border into west Germany.

The family lived in several places before ultimately settling in Bad Ems. There, Ilse and Erna were confirmed in their Lutheran church, worked, and Ilse enjoyed an active social life with friends. Her parents remained in Bad Ems for the rest of their lives.

At the age of 21, Ilse became the first member of her family to travel to the United States. Sponsored by a church group, she made the journey with just \$50 in her pocket and without knowing any English. She stayed with a family in Ridgewood, Queens, where she worked in a knitting mill.

She continued to enjoy going dancing and spending time with friends, and it was during this chapter of her life that she met her future husband, Wolfgang A. Fuchs.

Ilse and Wolfgang married and began their life together eventually buying a home in Kings Park, New York, where they raised their 3 children. Her gardens of flowers brought her joy as well as the many knick-knacks she collected. Ilse liked being outside and barefoot no matter the weather.

Possessing a special love for all children, Ilse would smile and talk to every child she encountered, always taking the time to acknowledge them with warmth and kindness. Her gentle spirit and genuine interest in others made people feel welcome. At about 85 years old, Ilse discovered a new creative passion and took up drawing; flowers and nature.

Ilse's journey from postwar Germany to the United States was one of remarkable courage and resilience. In 2001, she proudly became a United States citizen, completing a journey that had begun nearly five decades earlier when she first arrived in America.

Ilse was the beloved wife of the late Wolfgang A. Fuchs and the loving mother of Wolfram (Linda) Fuchs, Gary (Marybeth) Fuchs, and Heidi (Michael) Jakoby, and dear sister to Erna Marks. She was a cherished grandmother to Nathan (Amber) Fuchs; Drew (Chelsea) Fuchs; Paul Fuchs and Annalise Fuchs. She was the proud and loving great-grandmother of Piper, Sawyer, Finley, and Madison.

Ilse lived most of her life in Kings Park the community she loved before her health began to decline. She later moved to Hudson, New Hampshire, where she lived with her daughter, Heidi, and son-in-law, Michael; surrounded by family and their love.

Her family will forever remember her smile, her kindness, her creativity, her resilience, and the countless ways she showed her love. She will be deeply missed and forever carried in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. Her life was filled with challenges, but she met them with strength and determination and built a beautiful life as a result.