SURDUT, RAYMOND

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## Raymond Jonas Surdut, 82

WEST ROXBURY, Mass. – Raymond Surdut – lawyer, inventor, artist and writer – died of heart failure on Oct. 25, 11 days before his 83rd birthday. He is survived by his daughter, artist Beth Surdut, of Santa Fe, N.M., and his brother, Norman Surdut, of Cape Cod, Mass.



A Rhode Island native, he was the son of Samuel Surdut, who emigrated from Russia in 1906, and Mollie Promisel Surdut. He graduated from Hope High School, where he met and later married his wife and best friend, Sandra Cooperberg, who died in 1990.

He earned degrees from Brown University and Boston University Law School, practicing law in Providence and, later in life, inventing and holding international patents to a unique blood pressure monitoring device.

When his only child was 5, he made her the gift of *Jerry the Alligator*, an illustrated book he wrote and designed. The lesson that Jerry learned, "If you do the best you can, good things will happen," is one that she still carries with her.

He donated his body to Brown University Medical School. In appreciation of his care at the West Roxbury Veterans Hospital, donations may be made in his name to Fisher House, an on-campus facility that offers the *mitzvah* of refuge to families of hospitalized loved ones.

Contributions to Fisher House Boston, P.O. Box 230, South Walpole, MA 02071 or www.fisherhouseboston.org .