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YASHAR, AUDREY M. (Palm Beach Gardens, Florida and Jamestown, RI) died on August 19, 2010 in West Palm Beach, Florida at 74 years of age.

Audrey M. Yashar was born on May 31, 1936 in Chelsea, Massachusetts. The daughter of Harry and Brandyl Shuman, two Russian-Ukrainian immigrants, she was raised to believe that family, the Jewish community, education, and health were the most important pillars of life. She dedicated her life to pursuing these principles.

From an early age, Audrey Yashar was committed to Jewish organizations, starting in high school where she was the Chair of the Jewish Youth Council in Lynn, MA. In Rhode Island, she was a member of Temple Emmanuel (Providence, RI) for over 50 years, where she was a long-term member of the board. She was also Vice President at the Providence Jewish Community Center, where she was active in bringing children's theater to the area. At the Rhode Island Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women, she served as a president for one year and facilitated Russian resettlement to RI - helping new immigrants find housing, food, and services.

Audrey Yashar also believed deeply in the value of education in personal growth, professional development, community responsibility, and social tolerance. She attended nursing school at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, MA, pursued adult education courses many fundraising projects, she was particularly proud of chairing a Mardi Gras fundraiser to establish a house at Roger Williams Hospital for the families of patients in long-term care. At Pawtucket Memorial Hospital, she served as the director of the health and religions project (a federally funded program). In addition, she served on the board of a Rhode Island organization that provided support for battered women; she volunteered at the shelter and helped fundraise to establish a new building for the organization. After moving to Florida, she volunteered at Morse Geriatric (West Palm Beach, Florida), where she was a companion to the elderly.

Above all else, her family was held most dear to her. She always said that her family was her greatest accomplishment and pleasure; and she was selfless and boundless in her love, support, and dedication to her husband and children. She was married to Dr. John Yashar for 54 years and their love and devotion to each other was deep and everlasting. They first met in Boston at Beth Israel Hospital (where she was a nursing student and he was a chief resident). They ultimately settled in Rhode Island, where they raised five children and lived for over fifty years; in their later years they made their home both in Jamestown, R.I. and Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. The family took great pleasure in gathering together regularly in both places for holidays and celebrations. Her family was continually by her side as she battled leukemia dur-