



## Rita Serchuk Holland

March 14, 1929 - April 22, 2026

Rita Serchuk Holland, 97, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, in Houston, Texas. She was surrounded by family members at the time of her passing. Rita was born on March 14, 1929, in London, England to Lily and Julius Serchuk. She was the middle child of three daughters, Betty Rinkoff (deceased) and Hazel Bensky (92).

Rita was trained in art and educated at the prestigious Central Saint Martins, but her education was cut short by World War II. At the age of 19, she followed her family to Houston, something she had to do alone after contracting and overcoming scarlet fever. Her sister, Betty, married a soldier from Houston and the entire family started a new life there. She became a naturalized citizen and then met Joe Holland, the love of her life, whom she married in 1951. They had three children, Herbert Holland, Daniel Jay Holland, and Jane Lenette Holland. The family had a wonderful life together until Joe's sudden passing in 1972.

Left with three kids and no formal education or degree to fall back on, Rita went to work for Knapp Lock and Key company where she answered calls and dispatched locksmiths. She then left to work for Kaye Marvins Photography where she utilized some of her art training to refinish and touch up photographs.

Rita found her niche, though, becoming a bridal consultant, a career that lasted until she was in her 80's. She planned and coordinated the weddings of Olympian Mary Lou Retton and at Gracie Mansion in New York City for the chief of staff of Mayor David Dinkins. She became the queen of the Houston Jewish wedding scene, planning the weddings of multiple generations within the same families.

It was during this period of time that Rita met the second love of her life, Ezra Schacht, who gave her a new perspective on life, love, and politics. She cared for and loved him through his onset of Alzheimer's Disease. Unfortunately, his life was cut short by a car accident, which Rita survived.

Alone again, Rita channeled her loss into grief counseling at Bo's Place, a nonprofit bereavement center and was supported by her loving family and many friends at the Village of River Oaks, where she spent the last five years of her life.

She is survived by her sister, Hazel, three children, seven grandchildren, and eight great grandchildren.

The family would like to express its appreciation to Houston Hospice for taking care of Rita in her final days, Congregation Brith Shalom, and to all the people she has touched and who, in turn, touched her back. Donations in her memory may be made to Bo's Place (<https://bosplace.org/en/support-someone-grieving/donate/>).

A funeral service will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 1:00 pm in the Sophia & Jack Bender Memorial Chapel at Beth Yeshurun Post Oak Cemetery, 7445 Awty School Lane, Houston, Texas 77055, followed by a graveside service. A livestream of the service will be available at the following link: <https://venue.streamspot.com/f8d04b5b>



# Cemetery Details

## Beth Yeshurun Post Oak Cemetery

7445 Awty School Ln.  
Houston, TX 77055

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

APR 26. 1:00 PM (CT)

Beth Yeshurun Post Oak Cemetery  
7445 Awty School Ln.  
Houston, TX 77055

*The Sophia & Jack Bender Memorial Chapel. <https://venue.streamspot.com/f8d04b5b>*

# Tribute Wall

RW

“ Rita was a lovely woman - my condolences to her family, including dear Hazel, and all of those who loved her. She will be missed.

---

**Russell Weil** - May 12 at 05:30 PM

KA

“ We all loved our Aunt Rita so much. My mother, Renee Amdur, adored her. She was a joy, a wonderful person. Her memory will forever be a blessing.

*With love, Karen Amdur*

---

**Karen Amdur** - April 29 at 01:05 AM

JG

“ I am so terribly sorry for your loss. Rita was a one and only! I cherished working with her on weddings and knowing her outside of our work roles as friends. I had no idea Rita was ill or had even passed, but after no responses to texts, I did a Google search and found her obituary which took the breath out of me. Now knowing I just missed her funeral service saddens me. I would have loved to given her one last farewell with family and friends. We had plans of her attending my wedding this August and she will be missed then and always.

*My deepest sympathy. May her love and light continue to shine in all of us who carry on her memories.*

*Much love, dear Rita!*

*Jim Gray*

---

**Jim Gray** - April 28 at 05:48 PM

BM

“ My mom was incredibly lucky to have Rita for a best friend for more than 50 years. They were both such formidable ladies! As nearly perfect as my mom was, I think Rita was more resilient and way cooler. She got Helen to "let her hair down" more than any other friend or family member. Toward the end of my mom's life, I was pleased and amazed to notice that she was her most lucid when she was on the phone with Rita. They truly had a wonderful friendship. I wish your entire family peace and many, many joyful memories of Rita. Beverly Mintz

Beverly Mintz - April 27 at 03:53 PM

AW

“ Alison W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Serchuk Holland.

Alison W. - April 27 at 11:00 AM

VC

“ Dear Rita your family in Australia will Miss you love and long life to all the family love Vivien Andrea and Ruby xx

Vivien Coolen - April 25 at 02:05 AM

LF

“ Love, John & Anna Galo and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rita Serchuk Holland.



Love, John & Anna Galo and Family - April 25 at 12:55 AM

LF

“ Love, John & Anna Galo and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Serchuk Holland.

Love, John & Anna Galo and Family - April 25 at 12:55 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Rita Serchuk Holland.



April 24 at 05:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rita Serchuk Holland.

April 24 at 05:24 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Rita Serchuk Holland.



April 24 at 09:31 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rita Serchuk Holland.

April 24 at 09:31 AM

ES

“ *Rita did my wedding! I will always remember her big smile and joy. Thinking of you and your family. Elyse Selzer Schultz*

---

**Elyse S. Schultz** - April 24 at 12:40 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rita Serchuk Holland.*



---

April 23 at 11:37 PM