



## Pauline Ruth Eisenhower

*May 18, 1941 - September 1, 2026*

Topeka, Kansas

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Pauline Ruth Eisenhower died in Topeka on September 1, 2026. She was eighty-five. Born there on May 18, 1941, she grew up in a house where the church bulletin was treated as a legal document and a pot of beans was treated as a ministry. She learned a typewriter before she learned a highway. A correct file, she said, is a form of respect when a building already has enough speeches.

She spent thirty-four years as a clerk in a state office that did not look like the brochures. She typed the lists, the quiet lists of people who needed a hearing date and would not ask, and the quieter lists of people who needed a ride. She did not put her name on a committee. She put other people's names in the right order. When a supervisor left in a hurry she kept the keys and the coffee and the calendar until the next one learned which drawer stuck.

She married Howard Eisenhower in 1962. He sold seed and died in 1998. They raised a son and a daughter who still argue about who got the last piece of caramel cake. Pauline kept the garden of irises, and the habit of leaving a casserole on a porch without a speech. She sat through long meetings the way other people sit through weather.

Grandchildren remember a woman who corrected their thank-you notes more than their homework, who kept a biscuit tin of paper clips, and who could name every clerk in the building by the mug she no longer used. She died in Topeka, in the heat she had always said you could live with if you dressed for it. The files are someone else's now. The patience she practiced there is harder to replace than a typewriter.

### Services

A funeral in Topeka with one familiar hymn, sung slowly. A gift to the church benevolence fund is welcome.

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