

Maria Daria Haust, MD

One of our Founding Members and a Past President of the Society, Dr. Maria, Daria Haust passed away peacefully on Jan 11th 2022 at the age of 100. She leaves behind her husband of 70 years, Dr Heinz Haust, her two sons and their families including 4 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Details can be found [here](#).

Dr. Haust was born on August 18th, 1921 in a small village in Poland. She secured admission to the Medical College in Heidelberg, Germany where she graduated summa cum laude. She could not practice in Germany and decided to emigrate to Canada in 1952 along with her spouse, Dr. Heinz Haust, a fellow medical student, two years her senior. She spent the rest of her remarkable career in Canada mainly in Kingston, and London, Ontario. She also did a year of fellowship in Pediatric Pathology with Dr. Benjamin Landing in Cincinnati, Ohio. She has been internationally recognized for her seminal work in Atherosclerosis and Elastogenesis along with major contributions to Pediatric Pathology in the fields of Metabolic and Genetic disorders and Placental pathology. A distinguished teacher receiving innumerable awards, she has been responsible for training several pediatric pathologists. Other awards and honorary degrees will take pages to enumerate. They include the Gold Medal Award from the International Atherosclerosis Society, The Distinguished Pathologist Award from the US/Canadian Academy of Pathology, an Officer of the Order of Canada and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal from the Governor General of Canada. She is the recipient of honorary degrees in medicine from two Medieval Universities (Jagiellonian University, Krakow, the second oldest university in Central Europe established in 1364 whose students include Copernicus and Pope John Paul II, and Charles University, Prague, the oldest university in central Europe established in 1348). There is also Havana University, Cuba, the third oldest university of the New World. She was active in several Pediatric Pathology organizations all over the globe. A special lecture in her name was established at Queens University. The 10th lecture was a zoom lecture on May 25th 2021 with Dr. Haust and some members of our society in attendance. The first lecture was in 2001 by Dr. Kurt Benirschke.

Her relationship to our Society was very special and her contributions among many included the first short course at the USCAP on placental pathology, the evening Problems in Pediatric Pathology specialty conference at the USCAP, the launching of the Perspectives in Pediatric Pathology, the changing of the name of the Pediatric Pathology club to the Society for Pediatric Pathology and quest to secure board certification in our Specialty.

She was very distraught when the Society went digital and she did not receive any paper mailings. She said that she greatly missed being separated from her beloved Society and friends. Recently, however, her dear daughter in law Judy Haust agreed to serve as her eyes and ears and made sure that all communications got to her including the demise of some of her colleagues.

Her closest friends in the Society were Dr Marie (Molly) Valdes Dapena and Dr. Enid Gilbert-Barness. They would attend conferences together and were affectionately known as the Three Graces. With the passing of Dr. Dapena a few years ago, only one of the Three Graces remains with us now. We are so grateful a person like Dr. Haust was a part of our Society.

Her obituary can be found at this link:

<https://www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/theglobeandmail/name/aria-haust-obituary?pid=201200195>