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Ms. Irena Dabrowska



Irena was born in Poland in 1927 and recently celebrated her 95th birthday. She is remarkably very independent. She has been with us at Copernicus Lodge since 2014, where she happily spends time with her friends and is an active member of the Church community. As a child, Irena described herself as resourceful and brave - curious of the world and very adventurous. Irena's young years were made quite difficult due to the Second World War that started in 1939. In 1941, she was taken to Siberia where she endured 5 years. After the war, Irena returned to Szczecin, where she took care of her mother until her death. She had always dreamt of life overseas and so she decided to make the move to Toronto, Ontario, where her youngest brother was already living.

In Toronto, Irena found herself drawn to the Polish community linked to St. Casimir's parish on Roncesvalles, and spent many years dedicating her time as a Scout's leader for children ages 8-11 and as a Polish evening school teacher. To this day, her students remember the values she passed on to them. She was always willing to volunteer her time to help others. She travelled around Canada and the USA, and spent a significant amount of time in Florida where she volunteered at retirement homes.

Irena loves to be active and to this day she is always up and about, visiting her friends and going to the chapel. She has always loved to skate, ski, play tennis, swim, and ride her bike.