

## **The G&P Foundation honors Mikhail Gorbachev with the Angel of Peace Award**

**NEW YORK, NY**--The G&P Foundation for Cancer Research presented Mikhail Gorbachev with the *Angel of Peace Award* on October 11, 2000. This year the G & P Foundation is honoring leaders who have lost a spouse to cancer and continue to raise awareness for the disease. Mr. Gorbachev enjoyed 46 years with his wife Raisa Gorbachev, until cancer took her life last year.

The G & P Foundation will bestow this honor on Mr. Gorbachev during a dinner hosted by co-founder Denise Rich. "It is a privilege to honor a man of this magnitude," said Ms. Rich.

"Mr. Gorbachev suffered a great loss this past year, and I admire his courage and commitment to continue the fight against cancer."

Since 1992, the Honorable Mikhail Gorbachev has been President of the International Foundation for Socio-Economic and Political Studies (The Gorbachev Foundation) and President, Green Cross International. Mikhail Gorbachev served as President of the Soviet Union from 1990-1991 and as General Secretary of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Soviet Union from 1985 to 1991. He has received numerous honors including the Nobel Peace Prize (1990), the Orders of Lenin, the Red Banner of Labor, and the Badge of Honor.

Mikhail Gorbachev was born on March 2, 1931 in Privolnoje, Soviet Union. He grew up in this region and began work and his political career in the city of Stavropol. He worked as a machine operator at the Stavropol Agricultural Institute in 1946 and later went to the Moscow State University where he graduated in law.

Mikhail Gorbachev first joined the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1952 and acted as First Secretary, Stavropol Komsomol City Committee (1955-1958). From here, he gained reputation and experience in Stavropol politics and was later elected to the Central Committee, Communist Party (CCCP) of the Soviet Union as a Member in 1971. From 1978-1985 he served as Secretary for the CCCP with responsibility for agriculture. He also served as Deputy of Supreme Soviet from 1970-1990 and acted as Chairman for the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Soviet of the Union from 1984-85. From 1985-1990 he was a Member in the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, serving as President from 1989-1990.

Mikhail Gorbachev and his Raissa Gorbacheva, have one daughter, and two granddaughters.

In addition to Mikhail Gorbachev, The G & P Foundation will also honor Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan and Sir Paul McCartney at *THE ANGEL BALL*. President William Jefferson Clinton will once again be the Honorary Chairman and Larry King will serve as Master of Ceremonies. *THE ANGEL BALL* promises to be a musical extravaganza with performances by \*NSYNC, Marc Anthony, Patti LaBelle, Natalie Cole, She-Daisy and Lillias White.

Denise Rich and Michele Laurent Rella will serve together as Gala Chairs and this year's *ANGEL BALL* which will be co-produced and directed for the second year by Scott Mauro of Vision Merchant Productions, Inc. and Peter Herman of Event Partners Incorporated. For information on how to purchase tickets to *THE ANGEL BALL*, please contact Inez Weinstein Special Events at (212) 614-0400.

ESCADA is the exclusive fashion sponsor for *THE ANGEL BALL* and has been an "Arch Angel" supporter of the G & P Foundation since its inception. Chopard is the exclusive jewelry sponsor of *THE ANGEL BALL*.

**The G&P Foundation** was established in 1996 by songwriter Denise Rich and her son-in-law Philip Aouad, in memory of Denise's daughter Gabrielle Rich Aouad, who died at age 27 from AML Leukemia. The G& P Foundation's primary goal is to save lives by funding basic and clinical medical research in both conventional and integrative disciplines that focus on prevention, treatments and quality of life issues of leukemia, lymphoma and related cancers.