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Elizabeth Albright - Obituary

Aug 10, 2016



Elizabeth Albright

Elizabeth Parker Albright died peacefully, with the loving companionship and support of family and friends, at the St. Johnsbury Health and Rehabilitation Center on Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2016.

Bets was born Sept. 10, 1920, to Raymond and Grace Holden in Franconia, N.H. She and Scudder M. Parker were married on Sept. 5, 1941, and in 1952 Bets and Scudder moved to North Danville, bringing enthusiasm and limited knowledge to rural life. They bought the "Old Ward Homestead" in

North Danville and started farming. They survived through hard work and the support of wonderful friends and neighbors like Pat and Polly Patterson and Hubert and Eleanor Simons. Four of Bets and Scudder's children (Scudder, Sally, Steve, and Alan) moved to Vermont with them, and Mac, their youngest, was born in St. Johnsbury.

After Scudder's death in 1969, Bets met and married C. Peter Albright, and joined their families. Peter and the three Albright children, Barbara, Pete, and Matthew, moved from Burlington to the St. Johnsbury area, where Peter practiced medicine and Bets pursued her interests in writing, education and advocating for a wholistic approach to ensuring health. Bets was a proficient homemaker who cared for and helped raise eight children. She was a wonderful cook, an incredibly hard worker, and both instructed and learned from her children.



Bets was an author of poetry and prose, and wrote frequently for the North Star in Danville. She kept journals, was an avid reader and a talented artist. Bets and Peter were devoted members of the Danville Congregational Church, where she served as a deacon. She was a member of the American Society of Dowsers and chair of two national dowsing conventions held in Danville.

She was an avid gardener who actually helped get crops from the overly-optimistic plantings that Scudder embarked upon early in their homesteading career. She loved the land that she and Scudder and then Peter shared and cared for in North Danville. She loved to go on tours of the land with Peter and her son Steve, as he managed and developed the property.

Bets was devoted to her friends and welcoming to strangers – who then became friends. She loved the plants (except perhaps the knotweed) and the creatures that surrounded their home. She had a deep and abiding faith, and always understood that true piety is rooted in openness of heart and love of justice.

Bets graduated from Wellesley College, with a major in Italian. She and Scudder owned and ran

newspapers in Chicopee, Mass., and Katonah, N.Y., before moving to Vermont. Her parents were poets and artists. Her love of art and literature was a source of comfort to her, and was passed on to her children.

Bets had struggled for years against the increasingly debilitating effects of Alzheimer's disease, but even in the last months had found moments of awareness and joy with family, friends and especially Peter, her loving husband of 45 years. Peter, after years of devoted care and support passed away two months prior to Bet's death.

Bets was predeceased by her wonderful husband Peter, her daughter Sally (Ade Abdalla), and her son, Alan (Ginny Flanders), and her brother Richard. She is survived by her children Scudder Parker (Susan Sussman), Stephen Parker (Susanne Terry), Malcolm Parker (Julianna Simon), stepchildren Barbara Albright (Jacob Allen), Peter Albright (Karen Bucke Albright), and Matthew Albright. She leaves six grandchildren and eight step-grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held Sunday, Aug. 14, at 2 p.m. at the Danville Congregational Church, 87 Hill St., Danville with the Reverend Douglas Carter presiding. In lieu of flowers friends are asked to make donations to the Danville Congregational Church, the Danville Health Center, or the Pope Memorial Library in Danville.