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Malcolm Coates, 89, of Boxford, MA, died May 19, 2015, at home surrounded by his family and following a courageous time with Alzheimer's disease. He was the devoted husband of Deborah Lake Coates, with whom he shared over 38 years of marriage. Beside his loving wife, he is survived by his beloved children, daughter Carter and her husband James Donovan of Jamaica Plain, MA; daughter Judy and her husband Whitney Mitchell of Hanover, NH; son Malcolm Coates, Jr. of Phippsburg, ME; son J. Webster Coates and wife Ryoko of Tokyo, Japan; and son, David L. Coates and wife Sophie of Baltimore, MD; as well as 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Malcolm was a scholar and man of good works on behalf of those most in need.

Born and raised in Wayne, PA, he attended Episcopal Academy in Newtown Square, PA. After high school he served in the Navy as an airplane navigator during World War II, attaining the rank of Lieutenant (j.g.). He graduated from Williams College, then received a Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and was later honored with a Doctorate of Humane Letters from Williams College for his work in school communities. He served as Headmaster of Tower Hill School, Wilmington, DE; Lake Forest Country Day School, Lake Forest, IL; and Landon School, Bethesda, MD; for a total of thirty-five years. He had long tenures as an Active Member of the Headmasters Association (24 years) and The Country Day School Headmasters' Association of the United States (26 years). After retirement from Landon in 1990, he became a senior consultant for Carney, Sandoe and Associates for the next ten years. Malcolm served for 20 years as a trustee of Pingree School, South Hamilton, MA, and presented a vision for the establishment of the Prep@Pingree Program for the enrichment of minority students, which was later named in his honor. He was an active leader as a founding trustee of Esperanza Academy, a tuition-free independent school for girls in Lawrence, MA. In addition, he served as senior warden of Trinity Episcopal Church, Topsfield, MA, on the board of A Better Chance, Topsfield, MA, and the Essex County Community Foundation. In 2012, he received the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major for Justice Award from The Danvers Committee for Diversity. Throughout his long productive life, Malcolm enjoyed xstorytelling with children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, relaxing on Casco Bay in Maine, reading, skiing, hiking, and playing tennis.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 27th at 12 PM at Trinity Episcopal Church, Topsfield, for family and friends. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Malcolm's name to Esperanza Academy, 198 Garden Street, Lawrence, MA 01840, or The Malcolm Coates Prep@Pingree Program, Pingree School, 537 Highland Street, South Hamilton, MA 01982.

2 attachments



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Malcolm Coates obit.docx
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