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(Mrs. Sidney)

KENNEDY, DOROTHY DEERING Litchfield – Dorothy Deering Kennedy, age 96, passed away peacefully in her home early in the morning on December 1, 2015. Dorothy Rose, Dotty to her many friends, was born in Buffalo, NY on July 31, 1919. She was the older daughter of George P. Deering and her sweet mother, Louise Nestle, both of Lewiston / Buffalo, NY. Dorothy became a registered nurse at Buffalo Children's Hospital in 1943. Dorothy was wife to Sidney R. Kennedy Jr MD (Bob), a much loved and respected local pediatrician who served the Litchfield/Torrington area well and faithfully for many years. She is survived by her two children, Susan O. Kennedy of Litchfield, and John R. Kennedy of Fairbanks, Alaska. Also of the family, and much loved, is Patricia Flanders of Tonawanda, NY. Dorothy was predeceased by her husband, her sister, Orpha Flanders, her brother in law, Worth Flanders, and her nephew, Marc Flanders, kind husband of Patricia. Dorothy loved the Litchfield community from her very first day there. She and her husband built a house and moved in in 1950. Her energy and commitment to the betterment of the town never wavered from that day. She participated in the early distribution of Polio vaccine to the children of the town, and helped organize and operate many local Blood Mobile efforts. She was continually active in the politics of the town, always with a positive and persuasive manner. She served long and well on the Litchfield Board of Education. She was active in more organizations and causes that might fit here. Among them were the Litchfield Garden Club, The Women's Forum of Litchfield, Litchfield High School Scholarship Association, Litchfield School Board, and the American and Connecticut Orchid Societies. Beyond the formal she was well known for her love of entertaining her friends. Her parties were always the very best, and most anticipated. Her Christmas tree was always famously tall thanks to her wonderful neighbor, Bill Herpich. She had a green thumb. Her flowers, house plants, and the orchid filled greenhouse left in her care after her husband's passing were always wonderful to see. Dorothy, Sidney and sometimes the kids too, traveled widely, frequently, and all over the world. She met Russia, Mexico, The Galapagos Islands, Central America, Africa, Europe, coast to coast USA, Alaska, and more with enthusiasm, enormous energy, and love. Her children will remember always the sight of Dorothy at age 80 (or more) hard charging up a giant dune in Baja for a better view of the Pacific. She was a great dancer, and loved music of all sorts, from formal opera to 40's big band. She was among the last of an amazing generation of strong and elegant women who helped to make their community a better place for all. Surely all who knew her will have carried off some of that special spirit with them. Many heartfelt thanks must go to the wonderful aides who, with all love and kindness possible, made our mom their mom through these past few years. Many thanks as well to VITAS Hospice Care. Considered family and much loved are Kyla Engel and her beautiful family, Kimberly Druzilla, Shannon Harvey, Anika Mitchel, Lilya MacKay, Sahiris de Jesus Rodriguez, Marie Wesolowski, and Northwest VNA. A festive celebration of Dorothy's life will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers and such, please consider a contribution to a charity of your choice, or to the Litchfield High School Scholarship Assoc., The Susan B. Anthony Project, or The Litchfield Land Trust. Kindly visit [www.rowefuneralhome.net](http://www.rowefuneralhome.net) to send the family an online condolence.

Rowe Funeral Home

283 Torrington Road Litchfield, CT 06759

203-567-8708

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