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HELEN (SCHMIDT) KRUMPE(1914 - 2016)



KRUMPE, Helen (Schmidt) Helen (Schmidt) Hardman Krumpe, 102, of Brewster, passed away on Thursday, December 29th at Cape Cod Hospital in Hyannis, MA. She died peacefully, surrounded by her children. Helen was born in New York, NY on October 16, 1914. She moved with her family to Williamstown, MA as a child. After graduating from Williamstown High School, she attended Simmons College in Boston, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1935. Following her graduation, she returned to Williamstown, and worked at Williams College as a secretary for administration and faculty, including a memorable period working for writer Max Lerner. In 1940, Helen moved to New York, and secured an executive secretary position at Standard Oil of New Jersey. It was while living in New York that Helen met her first husband and

the love of her life, Robert "Bob" Hardman, who was serving in the U.S. Navy and temporarily based at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Helen and Bob married in 1946, returning to northern Berkshire County where Bob became business manager and publisher of his family's newspaper, The North Adams Transcript. While raising their three children, Helen was also active in local charity efforts and an avid bridge player. Bob died suddenly in 1978. It was through bridge that she met her second husband, the late Edward Krumpe, whom she married in 1981. They relocated to Wilmington, VT, and Luquillo, PR, eventually moving to Orleans, MA. After Edward's death in 2004, Helen spent her years hosting family and friends whenever possible at her homes in Orleans and Luquillo. She moved to The Woodlands, an assisted-living facility in Brewster, MA, in early 2015. She enjoyed getting to know new people and always found a new friend or two to join in card-playing, especially with her favorite card-mate, Gary Kielpinski. A great believer in the importance of the arts and humanities in education, Helen supported a number of music and writing programs in the North Adams public school system. She also took a special interest in the performance programs at the Academy Playhouse on Cape Cod. Helen served on the Board of Trustees at the MacDuffie School in Springfield, MA, and remained active in Simmons College alumnae affairs throughout her life. Helen is survived by her son Robert Hardman, Jr. and his partner, Miguel Perez, of Belmont, MA; Elisabeth Rix and her husband, Jack Rix, of Kings Mt., CA; Holly Hardman of Williamstown, MA; her grandchildren Thalia, Alexandra, Jefferson and his wife, Jessica Perez; as well as several nieces and nephews. At Helen's behest, there will be no calling hours or funeral service. She wished to bring family and friends together to celebrate a well-lived life. There will be a gathering in Orleans in late spring with burial to follow in Williamstown at Eastlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either: McGovern Institute for Brain Research at MIT, Attn: Kara Flyg, Bldg 46-3160, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139, www.mcgovern.mit.edu/support-the-institute; or to Friendship Center Food Pantry, Attn: Mark Rondeau, 45 Eagle Street, North Adams, MA 01247. For online condolences, please visit www.nickersonfunerals.com Nickerson Funeral Home 508 - 255 - 0259

View the online memorial for Helen (Schmidt) KRUMPE

Funeral Home

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