

## Morris, O'Connor & Blute - Yarmouth

W'34

### Clare Putnam

( November 27, 1925 - April 27, 2017 )

Clare Kittredge Putnam passed away peacefully on April 27, 2017, at her home in Yarmouth Port, MA, surrounded by her three daughters, Sarah Putnam of Watertown, Clare Putnam and Gretchen Putnam, both of Somerville. She loved being a mother and treasured her daughters. Clare was the wife of Charlton "Bus" Putnam for forty-three years, until Bus passed away in 2002. Clare and Bus Putnam settled in Rowley, MA, after marrying in Dayton, and lived there until 1981 when they moved to Marstons Mills, MA, on Cape Cod. She is survived by her younger brother, John B. Kittredge of Kalamazoo, MI, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and their families, whom she adored. She was predeceased by her older sister, Jeannette K. Lacouture, and older brother, Harvey G. Kittredge, Jr. Clare was born in Dayton, Ohio, on November 27, 1925. She was the daughter of Clare Ware Batten and Harvey G. Kittredge.



The family, along with cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents, spent many happy summers at a beautiful country house near Swiftwater, Pennsylvania, built in 1904 by her grandfather, the Rev. Loring W. Batten. After graduating from Bradford Junior College and the University of Michigan in 1947, Clare lived in Dayton until she was married. She taught third grade at the Harmon Avenue School in Oakwood, where she was cherished by her students and colleagues. Early in her life, Clare developed what would be a lifelong passion for music. When she was 11, her greatest wish was to go to the opera and her mother took her to the Cincinnati Opera. Her first job after college was working in the classical music department of a record store in Dayton. She listened to opera, classical, jazz, choral music, Frank Sinatra, Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, among others throughout her life. She was a believer in lifelong learning and had a boundless curiosity for languages, literature, music, social and global issues, stargazing, animals, nature, and our environment. Clare was a wonderful cook and loved cooking for her family as well as for relatives and friends who came to visit. She was creative in many ways and enjoyed knitting, sewing, and gardening. Above all, Clare was a remarkably generous and open-hearted person, whose warmth and lively vitality was infectious and a gift to all who knew her.

Donations in Clare's memory may be made to The Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts, Inc. (<http://thecompact.net/>) or to The Compact, P.O. Box 443, Barnstable MA 02630) or to the Marstons Mills Public Library (<https://www.mmpl.org/>).