

David Ransom(1917 - 2017)

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David "Dave" Forsyth Ransom, noted Architectural Historian of Hartford, passed away peacefully on August 21, 2017 at the remarkable age of 100. Dave was born on August 13, 1917 in Lockport, NY to Mildred (Weaver) and Harry Lockwood Ransom. He graduated from Williams College in 1939 and then served as a Lieutenant in the US Army during World War II. Dave eventually moved to Scarsdale, NY and worked for Startex in New York City. He and his family later moved to West Hartford, CT where he was an international sales manager for M. Swift & Sons Inc. of Hartford, CT. Dave retired at age 50 and became a highly respected Architectural Historian through his work in several areas. He was the author of "George Keller, Architect", the definitive biography of the celebrated Hartford architect. This book is also the acknowledged study of Keller's vast architectural legacy, which included designs for monuments, houses, institutional buildings and bridges. Dave also wrote "Structures and Styles: Guided Tours of Hartford Architecture", co-authored with Gregory Andrews. He worked closely with The Connecticut Historical Commission, and was instrumental in establishing historic districts in Hartford, particularly the areas of Congress Street and Lewis Street. In addition, he was a visiting lecturer at Trinity College and served as a board member with several organizations, including Cedar Hill Cemetery, The CT Historical Society, CT Preservation Action, and the West Hartford Historic District Commission. He received the Harlan H. Griswold award, Connecticut's highest award for historic preservation, from the Connecticut Trust for History Preservation in 1991. Following the passing of his wife Helen, Dave spent his many remaining years as a resident of Avery Heights retirement community in Hartford. Dave was predeceased by his wife, Helen Ruth Pierce; his son, Mark Willard Ransom; and his brother, Willard W. Ransom. He is survived by his daughter, Joan Alice Ransom, and grandson, James Bielitz Ransom. Public services will not be held. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, 940 Whitney Ave, Hamden, CT 06517. Additional information can be found at their website: <http://cttrust.org> Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, West Hartford has taken care of arrangements. For online condolences, please visit www.taylorandmodeen.com

**Funeral Home****Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home**

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