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Ruth Whiston Roberts Upshall

Ruth Whiston

Roberts Upshall, 88

SOUTH PORTLAND -- Ruth Whiston Roberts Upshall, 88, died on June 2, 2013, of cancer. She was born in Hamilton, N.Y., the beloved daughter of Rev. Lee and Irma Whiston. She graduated from Fitchburg High School, '41 and Wooster College '45 where she was president of the Women's Athletic Association. She received her MS degree in Elementary Education from Syracuse University in '59, and later taught at Warners School in New York and Lincoln School in South Portland. In addition, she worked three years as a Curriculum Coordinator in South Portland's model Career Education Program, and served one term as president of the South Portland Teachers Association.

Ruth enjoyed many hobbies including camping, square dancing, photography, gardening and flower arranging. She was president of Osewantha Garden Club and a flower show judge. She was an active member and honorary Elder at First Congregational Church, UCC in South Portland. Since 1991 she spent winters in Florida where she volunteered at Resurrection House for the homeless, and was very active in the Peace and Justice Movement.

In 1945 she married Rev. Bruce Roberts, former UCC Associate Conference minister in Maine, who died in 1978. In 1986 she married Bruce Upshall of Toronto, Canada, and was widowed again in 1989.

She is survived by two sons, Bruce and Carl Roberts and their wives, Annette (Flynn) and Wijtske (Kamerman), a daughter, Carolyn Civitarese; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; as well as three married stepchildren; six married step-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren. She will also be sadly missed by her brother, William (Bill) and his wife, Isabelle; three nieces and four nephews.

Throughout her life Ruth always built on the good in people, graciously offering encouragement, support and warm hospitality to everyone she met. A private service is to be held at the Upshall residence. Online condolences may be expressed at www.hobbsfuneralhome.com

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to:

Amnesty International

5 Penn Plaza

New York, NY 10001

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Roberts Upshall

[Send Flowers](#)

Funeral Home

HOBBS FUNERAL HOME

230 COTTAGE RD South Portland, ME 04106-3802

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