



Elizabeth "Betty" Rothe

January 7, 2015

Elizabeth "Betty" Love Rothe, 98, wife of Frederick Rothe, formerly of Schenectady, N.Y. and for the last 18 years a resident of Kimball Farms in Lenox, died peacefully on Wednesday morning, Jan. 7. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y. in 1916, Betty was raised in Maplewood, N.J. She earned her BA from Mt. Holyoke College in 1938, majoring in Art History and English Literature. She then received a three year piano scholarship to the Johns Hopkins Peabody Institute. A member of the Mount Holyoke Alumni Association, she received the Loyalty Award at her 75th class reunion. Betty was an enthusiastic lover of art and music. She founded The Oak Room Artists group in Schenectady, taught English and Art at the Bartram School in Jacksonville, Fla., Art History for adults in the Schenectady public schools, taught piano lessons for twenty years, and was Music Supervisor at the Brown School in Schenectady. She frequently lectured on the arts in the Capital Area and had been president of the Schenectady Symphony Orchestra. Betty helped found the Schenectady Civic Opera Company as well as the Modern Dance Council and the Schenectady Civic Ballet, now Berkshire Ballet Co. As a member of the Schenectady County Chamber of Commerce, Betty chaired various committees and helped to start the Schenectady Arts Council. She was a Life Member of the Schenectady Museum and was a key fund raiser for the Sunnyview Orthopedic Hospital. Betty also served as a Christian Science practitioner for twenty five years. She enjoyed all that Kimball Farms had to offer and was well known for her pencil portraits and expressionist painting. Betty is survived by her two sons, Woody and Stephen Rothe, seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and many loving friends. A private celebration of her life will take place later this summer at Fred and Betty's Adirondack home in Lake Pleasant, N.Y. In support of Betty's humanitarian spirit, please donate on her behalf to Heiferinternational.org or call 1-888-548-6437.