



Mrs Ann Beecher Underwood

January 26, 1925 - July 8, 2019

Ann Beecher Underwood, age 94, of Kimball Farms Nursing Care, Lenox died 8 July 2019 at Berkshire Medical Center after a brief illness.

Born on 26 January 1925 in Hartford, CT, the daughter of Eldridge Martin and Florence Hannegan Beecher, Mrs. Underwood graduated from Oxford School (now Kingswood-Oxford) in West Hartford and Connecticut College in 1946.

Mrs. Underwood was a resident of Stockbridge from 1947 to 2002, when she moved to Kimball Farms. She and her husband, L. Gardner Underwood, were married at St. John's Episcopal Church in West Hartford, CT on 25 January 1947. The newlyweds moved to the Knoll in Stockbridge, while they renovated their home on Prospect Hill which they moved into in 1950.

Active in the First Congregational Church in Stockbridge, Mrs. Underwood served three terms as a Deacon, as well as serving on several other committees of the church. She sang in the church choir for 30 years. Mrs. Underwood was also a member of the Junior League, the Mahkeenac Boating Club and the Red Hats, along with various environmental and human rights groups.

Having inaugurated in 1969 and developed the school library from one box of books to a collection of 10,000+ volumes, Mrs. Underwood served as school librarian at Berkshire Country Day School for thirty years. It was her great joy to read aloud to and choose colorful and interesting books for her many students over the years.

She lived at Kimball Farms for 17 years, and served there as Chairman of the

Trips Committee, the Library Committee, Kimball Gives Committee and the Dining and Nutrition Committee.

She enjoyed daily walks in her beloved woods with her dogs, travel with her dear friend Joyce Hovey, reading, life-long learning, attending dog shows, time spent with family in the Adirondacks, and, of course, her grandsons and great grandsons. Her gentle nature, artful conversation, unending curiosity, genuine kindness and generosity will be missed by all who knew her.

Mrs. Underwood was predeceased by her husband in 1975 and her grandson, Winston Beecher Underwood-Miller, as well as her sister-in-law and brother in law Suzanne Underwood and Samuel Field III. She is survived by her daughter Charlotte (Sally) Underwood-Miller and son-in-law Gary Miller of Stockbridge; two grandsons - Jesse Underwood -Miller, his wife Jamie Amuso and their three sons, Oscar, Levi and Dexter Underwood-Miller of Pittsfield, and James Underwood-Miller of Holyoke; her four nieces-Patter Field (Ted Thornton), Kate Field, Lula Field and Margaret Field (James Sharp); and great nieces Kate Wilson (Andrew Wertz) and Leila Giovannoni (Wes Snyder), and great nephew Michael Giovannoni; and great grand-nephew Samuel Wertz. At her request, a private service will be held at the family grave site in Hazelton, NY. Officiating will be the Reverend Ted Thornton. A celebration of life is planned for the fall at the First Congregational Church of Stockbridge. The Roche Funeral Home in Lenox will be in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to Mass Audubon or the Sierra Club. To share memories and stories please visit rochefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

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“ Sally, Gary, so sorry that such a truly lovely lady is gone. Ann had the most wonderful voice reading to children and infinite patience. She was always kind, friendly, and interesting to talk with. It was always my pleasure to see her at Kimball Farms and I know my mom enjoyed being her dinner companion at the nursing care center. My love to you,
Marilyn

Marilyn Orner - July 11, 2019 at 12:09 PM

CP

“ Mrs. Underwood was my childhood librarian and friend at BCD. She will always be a treasured part of my childhood. Nothing more comforting than her calm voice, warm lap and a good book. She was truly loved by all. I remember sitting and watching her knit and after a while she suddenly handed me her knitting and said “Here, can you finish this for me?” I got right to work, mistakes and all she let me keep going. The next day she appeared with needles and yarn of my very own. Later in life I opened a yarn shop and always thought of her calmness and patience when I taught children how to knit for the first time. Heaven has a new gem. You will always be thought of Ann. Thank you for being a part of my life.-
Cara Petricca

Cara Petricca - July 10, 2019 at 02:03 PM