



Elizabeth Betty Applegate

June 24, 1923 - November 22, 2018

Elizabeth (Betty) Applegate 95, died peacefully in Kingwood, TX, surrounded by her children and grandchildren on November 22nd.

Betty, Sally Cook and other community-minded women turned what was once a small grocery store, on the west side of Bloomington, IN into a nonprofit dedicated to providing used merchandise of reasonable quality at rock-bottom prices. Opportunity House is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018.

In addition, Betty served for decades in other Bloomington-area service organizations. For 17 years she served Alpha Chi Omega Sorority in a variety of positions including as a Chapter Advisor and President of the Board. She was a long-standing member and former President of one of the Bloomington Tri-Kappa Chapters and was a 50-year member of the Bloomington Chapter of Eastern Star and PEO and served as PEO President. Betty was an active member of the Monroe County Library Board of Directors, founded and served as Director of the Bloomington Foster Home, and served as the Director of the Methodist Youth for the First Methodist Church. In addition, Betty held several other local, state and national leadership roles including as President of the Monroe County School Foundation Board and President of the Indiana Lawyers Auxiliary, ending her tenure as the National President of the American Lawyers Auxiliary. Betty was recognized in 2013 by the City of Bloomington when she received the Be More Award for Lifetime Achievement. Betty returned to Indiana University to study interior design, after raising her family, and established a successful design business, Gateway Interiors.

In 1944, Elizabeth Dilts married her grade-school sweetheart and love of her life, Karl Edwin Applegate of Winamac Indiana, a union that celebrated its sixty-seventh year in 2011 and resulted in four children, Eric, Ray, Bob and Beth Applegate.

Betty was a beloved wife, mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and friend. She is survived by her sister, Mary Canada, CO; son Raymond Applegate (Rachel) of TX; son Bob Applegate (Vicki) of WI; and daughter Beth Applegate (Trish Kerle'); of Bloomington. She is also survived by six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband K. Edwin Applegate; son Eric Applegate; mother Lenora Dilts; father Russel Dilts; and brothers John, Dick, Alan, Moses, Tom, Robert and Dan Dilts.

Her body will be cremated and her remains will be placed in the First Methodist Church, Columbarium where her husband and eldest son Eric also rest in peace.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in memory of Betty Applegate to the Opportunity House <https://ophousethrift.org/>

A memorial in Bloomington will be announced at a future date.

Condolences may be directed to Beth Applegate, 911 West 3rd Street, Bloomington, IN 47404; Bob Applegate N9360 Anacker Rd, Portage, WI 53901; and Raymond Applegate, 3507 Lost Lake Drive, Kingwood 77339.

You are invited to share a memory or leave an online condolence to the family at www.allencares.com.

Tribute Wall

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“ I've only just learned of Mrs. Applegate's passing. For two years I rented one half of a duplex from Mr. and Mrs. Applegate on South Swain Avenue; not only were they kind landlords, but they were generous people and community members. More than once they invited me in to share an afternoon meal, and regaled me with stories of Bloomington in the early days (when Mr. Applegate had to petition the city to have Swain Ave paved), how they started their family in the other half of the duplex where I then lived, and even excitedly shared their photographs and stories of their family trip to Africa. Mr. and Mrs. Applegate were truly lovely, loving members of the Bloomington community, and they are missed and fondly remembered. - Thomas Florio (IU, M.M. 2009)

Thomas Florio - February 03, 2019 at 05:41 PM

GM

“ I have known Betty for a long time. She and I served together in my P.E.O. chapter; she helped me decorate our family home and she made so many lasting contributions to the Bloomington community. I send my heartfelt sympathy to the family; she lived a long and fulfilling life and I am honored to have known her. Sincerely Gerry Miller

Gerry Miller - November 27, 2018 at 03:24 PM