



Ruth Edith Houdeshel

November 21, 1918 - January 6, 2015

It was a cold day in Bloomington when Ruth Donahue Houdeshel , wife of the late Professor Harry Houdeshel, passed on January 6, 2015 at the Meadowood Retirement Community.

Born November 21, 1918, Ruth was raised in Upper Darby PA, and graduated from Dickenson College, PA, where she met Harry. They lived in Washington, DC, for twenty years while raising three children, Pete of Salt Lake City, Jo of Cincinnati, and Marc of Maryville, TN. During the war years she worked in the Personnel Department of the U.S. Navy Yard. After the war she taught in the DC public school system.

In 1960 the Houdeshel family moved to Bloomington to start new adventures. Ruth went on to obtain her Masters Degree in Education and remedial reading. Her first position was a reading teacher at the Indiana University Speech and Hearing Center. Later she was appointed to Indiana University Service to Disabled Students Department where she worked for 18 years as a reader for the blind or visually impaired. She also tutored privately in her me. As a volunteer, she recorded over 30 books for the Indiana State Library Talking Program and served many years as a docent for the Indiana University Art Museum.

In addition to her three children, Ruth is survived by her sister, Grace Loyel of Ocean City, NJ, three grandchildren, and seven great grand children.

Ruth was independent, active and witty right up until the day she died. Typical of Ruth, a strong-willed woman with an abundance of life experiences, her final written instructions were found on an envelope of an insurance policy saying, "Dear Children, my funeral expenses are all paid through Homesteader. Don't let them tell you otherwise. Love, Mom."

The family would like to invite friends to a service to be held at the Meadowood Terrace Room on Saturday, January 31, at 2:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Harry F. Houdeshel Memorial Flute Scholarship through the Indiana University Foundation, or to a local charity of choice.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory is handling the arrangements and online condolences may be sent to the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org.

Tribute Wall

JA

“ Dear Children,
Was grateful to get to become a friend of Ruth's at the Christian Science church we attended. She lovingly cared for our three sons while infants and toddlers during the church services till they reached Sunday School age in the 1980's. We enjoyed visiting Harry & Ruth at their lovely home they had built in the woods and were able to build our new home with the same hickory flooring from the Spencer, IN mill. In later years i was able to visit Ruth often and help Harry with his mobility while Ruth was caring for him at their home. Our lives were enriched by knowing these great folks. We celebrate Ruth's life with you! Jackie & Frank Dixon

jacqueline Dixon - October 26, 2015 at 04:02 PM

MI

“ My prayers are with the family may god help the family heal in this needed time

Michele Crail - October 26, 2015 at 04:02 PM