



Ruth P. Taylor

July 16, 1928 - November 23, 2019

Exeter – Ruth P. Taylor, 91, of Exeter and formerly of North Hampton, passed away peacefully on November 23, 2019 at Riverwoods. She was born on July 16, 1928 in Worcester, MA, a daughter of the late Silas and Helen (Williams) Partridge. She shared over 61 years of marriage with her beloved husband Donald Taylor who passed on July 17, 2011.

Ruth was raised in Worcester and was a graduate of South High School. She was an accomplished professional musician and studied under Dr. Leopold Sachse in White Plains NY as a soprano soloist and opera performer. She also received classical training in the piano and organ and was commissioned to write and compose musicals for numerous children's plays including "Let's Go To The Circus" and the "Pied Piper Comes to Town". Ruth later instructed students in music at the Shepard Knapp School in Boylston, MA.

Ruth met and fell in love with her future husband when they were in a band together. They were married in June 1950 and moved to Eliot, Maine while Don pursued his Naval career, which included time at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The young couple later settled in Grafton, MA to raise their family. In 1969 they moved to Milwaukee, WI where Don was employed by Nordberg, which later was acquired by Rexnord, a company with facilities around the world. Ruth was of tremendous help to him during his corporate career, as he rose to president, eventually becoming CEO and chairman of the board. After retirement in 1997 they moved to North Hampton, returning to New England and the New Hampshire seacoast they adored.

In business and during retirement, Ruth and Don traveled the globe together. They were also the life of many parties, as both were musically trained and were often asked to perform a duet. Ruth's philanthropic work was focused upon the performing arts. She was on the board and a life director of the Florentine Opera Company in Milwaukee. She and Don permanently endowed a chair in the woodwinds section of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

They also maintained a home in Eastham, MA and were members of the Milwaukee Country Club, Abenaqui Country Club and Wentworth By the Sea. Ruth and Don were also members of a musical ensemble in North Hampton called the Little River Trio.

Ruth will be remembered by her loving children, Donald W. Taylor and his wife, Anne, of Milwaukee, WI, Mark R. Taylor and his wife, Lynn, of Delray Beach, FL and John S. Taylor and his wife, Elisabeth, of Franklin, NH. She also leaves her nine adoring grandchildren, Jared Robertson, Drew, Wesley, Harrison, Tucker, Palmer, Ellery, Spencer and Abigail Taylor and two great grandchildren, Ella and Emil Robertson.

In addition to her parents and her beloved husband, Ruth was predeceased by her daughter, Linda Ruth Taylor-Robertson in September 2018.

Services will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at the North Hampton United Church of Christ, 295 Atlantic Ave., North Hampton. If desired, memorials may be made to [Seacoast Family Promise of Exeter]<https://www.seacoastfamilypromise.org/> or the [Morton N. Swartz MD Initiative of Massachusetts General Hospital]<https://www.massgeneral.org/medicine/initiatives/morton-swartz> Burial will be private in the Little River Cemetery.

Cemetery

Little River Cemetery

95 Atlantic Avenue

North Hampton, NH, 03862

Events

DEC

7

Memorial Service

11:00AM

United Church of Christ

295 Atlantic Avenue, North Hampton, NH, US, 03862

Comments



“ Dear all,
What a sad news!!!
Ruth and her family kindly hosted me in 1989 in Milwaukee in their beautiful house.
What a great. We shared also great time in Cap Cod. Ruth and Don are associated
to so many good memories.
I express my sincerest sympathy to her family.
Antoine Labruyere

Antoine - December 06 at 10:37 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Don Anne Taylor - December 03 at 12:45 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Don Anne Taylor - December 02 at 05:25 PM



“ I met Ruth in 1989 shortly after beginning my employment at the Florentine Opera.
We always enjoyed seeing each other at meetings, performances and opera events.
Her laugh was a delight to hear. We continued to stay in touch after she and Don
moved to New Hampshire. I would call her every year on July 16 to sing Happy
Birthday. She was a delightful woman and I am grateful to have known her.

Nancy Tawney - November 30 at 06:06 PM



“ Thank you, Nancy, for your tribute to Mom. We, her family, also enjoyed her laugh as it had a touch of song to it. She spoke very highly of you, always, as well as her involvement with the Florentine Opera. Those were happy days for us to remember.

Donald (Buz) and Anne Taylor

Don - December 02 at 05:15 PM



“ Please accept my deepest condolences.
To Ruth's family - especially her children. With thanks to your mothers generosity and kindness during my teen and pre-teen years. She took me under her wing during that critical time so that I would be among a stable family (you) after losing my own mother.

You are truly fortunate to have had her.

The "wing" reference above was deliberate. She was a Partridge and always signed correspondence and notes (at least back then) that included a simple "tweety bird" sketch at the end. Always.

Was just another simple thing that made her special.

-Steve Clark

Steve Clark - November 24 at 05:50 PM



“ Steve,
Thank you so much for your words of sympathy. Mom lived a long and wonderful life, but it is hard to lose her, especially so soon after Linda. I remember how close Mom was to you and your siblings after you lost your own mom.

Buz Taylor

Don - December 02 at 04:59 PM