



Sally Williams Merrick

September 21, 1938 - September 19, 2024

Exeter - Sally Williams Merrick, age 85, passed away peacefully on September 19, 2024, in Exeter, New Hampshire, surrounded by her loving family. Her devoted husband of over 60 years, Frank Merrick, was by her side.

Born on September 21, 1938, in Dayton, Ohio, Sally was the cherished daughter of the late Insco John Williams and Harriette (Spake) Williams. She was raised in Oakwood, Ohio, where her lifelong passion for learning began.

Sally graduated from the College of William and Mary with a Bachelor of Arts in History, where she was a proud member of Phi Beta Kappa. She continued her academic journey at Tufts University, earning a Master's of Education, and later obtained a Master's in English from Salem State University.

For over 20 years, Sally taught English and British literature at Triton Regional High School in Byfield, Massachusetts. As the head of the English department, she found great joy in fostering a love of literature in her students, leaving a lasting impact on many.

Sally and Frank met at Maddie's Sail Loft in Marblehead, Massachusetts, and shared a lifelong passion for sailing. They spent over 40 summers exploring the coast of Maine with their three sons. Alongside close friends, they ventured on expeditions along the coasts of Greenland, Labrador,

Newfoundland, Alaska, Chile, Patagonia, Cape Horn, and the Falkland Islands.

After more than 20 years in Amesbury, Massachusetts, Frank and Sally found their true home on a beautiful plot of land in Friendship, Maine. There, they built their dream house on the coast, where they spent many happy years enjoying the best Maine had to offer.

Sally is survived by her husband, Frank, her three sons, Robert and his fiancé Caryn Gardiner of Centerville, VA, Christopher and his wife Laurie of Stratham, NH, and Ned and his wife Rita of Redditch, England, and five grandchildren, Emma, Taylor, Steven, William, and Molly.

A memorial service will be held at 12:00 PM on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home- Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton, NH. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Sally's honor be made to the Friendship Public Library by clicking here (<https://www.friendshiplibrary.me/donate>).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **28**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory

811 Lafayette Road ·

Hampton, NH 03842

(603) 926-6500

info@remickgendron.com

<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Susan B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sally Williams Merrick.

Susan B. - September 29, 2024 at 01:37 AM

SB

“ What a wonderful individual. She contributed so much to many and was a true friend. She will be missed by so many. Sorry to miss the funeral. In Africa teaching, something she would value after her many years as a teacher. My sympathies to all. Susan Briggs

Susan Briggs - September 29, 2024 at 01:31 AM

CB

“ Sally and I were colleagues for over two decades. She was a wonderful teacher and friend. We shared similar intellectual outlooks as well as the love of antiques and ribbed turtleneck sweaters. I'm happy she realized her dreams. Sincere condolences to her loved ones. Cheryl Baker (aka Cheryl Stuart)

cheryl baker - September 28, 2024 at 05:42 PM

LC

Sally was such a great help with the Friendship Maine museum and their work with the 6th grade oral history program.

Lynn Case - September 30, 2024 at 03:44 PM

ME

“ Condolences from Megan Briggs Ellingsen and family. She was one of the kindest, smartest and funniest people I have had the honor to know. While I wasn't one of her students, I've know her my whole life and she always showed interest in what my siblings and cousins thought about and what we were reading and encouraged us. Much love and deepest condolences. Megan



Megan Briggs Ellingsen - September 27, 2024 at 01:38 PM

ME

“ Megan E. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sally Williams Merrick.

Megan E. - September 27, 2024 at 01:19 PM

FT

“ From PDX, Thermo Fisher Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sally Williams Merrick.

From PDX, Thermo Fisher Team - September 25, 2024 at 04:51 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Sally Williams Merrick.



September 25, 2024 at 04:51 AM

DH

“ *By Far the best English teacher I had. Sorry for your loss.*

Doug Hardy THS Class of 1984

Doug Hardy - September 24, 2024 at 10:46 AM

MH

“ *THS '82. Her class was so hard. All these years later I am beginning to understand the true meaning behind what I was reading. Thank you for instilling a love of learning and curiosity. I certainly wasn't your best student back then but it is a turtle race.*

mike houlihan - September 24, 2024 at 09:05 AM

M1

“ *Mrs. Merrick was one of the toughest and best teachers I had. I'm so grateful for the high expectations she set for all of her students. She was an amazing teacher and inspired in me a love of literature and writing. It sounds like she had a love-filled and adventurous life. My condolences to her family.*

Mary-Anne Pesci Triton Class of 1980 - September 23, 2024 at 07:17 PM

SD

“ *Mrs. Merrick was my amazing English teacher. I remember her consistently putting literature into its historical context, and now I can see why she always brought such depth to that - as a student I never knew of her degree in history. I loved her class and learning from her. - Sue Densmore, Class of 1984*

Sue Densmore - September 23, 2024 at 03:35 PM

AW

“ So sad to hear of Sally's passing. She was a wonderful aunt - so full of energy and fun. I'll always remember her for her passion for teaching, her laughter - and her fearlessness. She was also adored by her brother/my father John Williams, who passed away some years ago. Condolences to uncle Frank, cousins Robert, Chris, and Ned and their families. Thinking of you all at this time, and remembering happy times together at lake Attitash when we were children.

Anneli Williams - September 22, 2024 at 06:21 AM

JH

She was a favorite of mine at Triton Regional High School and inspired me to major in English and become a writer. She was fabulous. I'm so sorry to hear of her passing.

Jewel Bradstreet Heldman - September 23, 2024 at 01:59 PM