

Obituary

Helen Diffie Tyler

Helen Louise Diffie Tyler passed away May 1, 2018 in her sleep. She was the daughter of Jefferson Davis Diffie and Mildred Hall Diffie. She leaves her husband William Elliotte Tyler III of 61 years, two sons William E Tyler IV and wife Laura Tyler of Greensboro NC, Markham Tyler and his wife Michele Tyler of Mechanicsville VA; sister Linda Diffie Dodd and two nieces Mindy Dodd and Caroline Dodd; and five grandchildren, Olivia Tyler, Lilly Tyler, George Tyler, Matthew Tyler and Brandon Tyler.

Helen was born in Waynesboro VA February 5, 1935, attended Waynesboro High School and subsequently graduated from Madison College as an elementary school teacher in 1956. She taught elementary school in Alexandria VA and after marriage taught in Allentown PA.

In 1960 she and the family moved to New Jersey and lived in and around Berkeley Heights NJ for 43 years. While in New Jersey she frequently served as a substitute teacher. Helen was very involved in local activities. She was a dedicated member of the Historical Society of Berkeley Heights for 20 years, serving as president for more than a decade. She had a crucial role in the rescue and preservation of the historic buildings at the Littell-Lord Farmstead, and in operating the 1760 Farmhouse as a museum and program center. She was also an active member of Questors, the American Association of University Women, and the League of Women Voters. She and Bill spent many summers at the AMC Echo Lake Camp on Mt Desert Island. She and Bill were first members of the New Providence, NJ Methodist Church and then members of the Berkeley Heights Presbyterian Church.

In 2003 Helen and Bill moved back to Waynesboro VA into the former home of her parents. They designed and built a house in Wintergreen VA and moved there in 2005. Helen spent the last eight years of her life at Charlottesville Health and Rehabilitation in Charlottesville, Virginia.

A memorial service will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 249 South Wayne Ave, Waynesboro, VA on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at 11:00 AM. The family will host a gathering immediate following.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in the name of Helen Diffie Tyler to the Alzheimer's Association, 355 Rio Road West, Suite 102, Charlottesville, VA 22901