



Mary Katharine "Kate" Powell

APR 9, 1926 - MAY 18, 2013



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Mary Powell Obituary

Katharine Bush Powell (formally Medsker) died peacefully surrounded by her loving family May 18, 2013 of renal failure. Kate was an adventurous spirit with a keen intellect and enjoyed an active, diverse life. Katharine was born in White Plains, NY April 9, 1926 to Ellen Mary Bush (at age 46) and Joseph Erwin Bush. She joined her two older brothers, Norman and Joseph Bush. She grew up in Dresden, Ohio, where she moved to at a young age. As a girl she worked delivering milk from the family cow and at the Bush Woolen Mill. That Bush Woolen Mill later became home to the first Longaberger Basket Company. Her milk money was used to purchase furniture for her first home. She graduated Valedictorian of Jefferson High School in 1943. She attended The Ohio State University in 1943 to 1947. While at OSU, she was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority and met her lifelong friend, June Young. After graduation, Katharine married George Allen Medsker in 1948. The young couple moved to Elyria, Ohio and raised a family of four children. Their marriage ended in 1977. Upon marriage to Robert Gordon Powell in 1979, they relocated to North Olmsted in 1981. While in Elyria, Kate and her friends proudly developed the Mountain Mamas backpacking group with their inaugural trip in 1972. This group of women shared more than 35 trips together and formed deep friendships with lifelong bonds. Kate was also very active in League of Womens Voters, Girl Scouts, and the Olmsted Unitarian Universalist Church. She had many interests:, family, music, bridge, outdoor activities, sewing, history, political/environmental issues, and traveling. She and Robert enjoyed competing in duplicate bridge. Her husbands preceded her in death: George Medsker and Robert Powell. She is survived by her children, Dan Medsker, Lakewood, Ohio, Tom Medsker (Robin), Fredericksburg, VA, Nancy Medsker (Tom Seaney), Ithaca NY, and Susan Earl, (Jim), Durango, CO, 6 grand children and 1 great grand child. Contributions in her memory may be made



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to the Sierra Club or Best Friends Animal Society (Kanab, Utah). A memorial service will be 3:00 pm Sunday, August 4, 2013 at Olmsted Unitarian Universalist Congregation on Porter Rd in North Olmsted. Dicken Funeral Home and Cremation Service, Elyria handled arrangements. For online condolences, visit www.dickenfuneralhome.com

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Mary Katharine "Kate" Powell, please visit our floral store.

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