



Mrs. Barbara Hall

February 19, 1920 - August 19, 2012

Born February 19, 1920 in Fort Fairfield, Maine to Katherine Hopkins and Charles Ham Abbott.

When she was 6 years old the family moved to Providence, Rhode Island where her father served as principal of several middle and high schools.

Mrs. Hall attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine and graduated with a degree in European History in 1941. She served as a proctor, was active in a number of organizations and thoroughly enjoyed her Bates experience which led to a lifelong commitment to Bates College. She served as a member of the Board of Trustees, Alumni President, and in 1996 was presented the Distinguished Alumni Service Award and continued in her role as class secretary from graduation until her death. Her loyalty to Bates included her last visit to campus for her 70th reunion in 2011.

She taught for a year in Bryant Pond, Maine for a salary of \$900.00 a year.

Mrs. Hall attended Katherine Gibbs School in 1945, was hired in the fall by the Dean's Office of Harvard College and was encouraged shortly thereafter to apply for a new position as the House Secretary at Harvard's Kirkland House. She was sitting behind her typewriter on her first day of work, when Richard Hall, home from the war and beginning graduate work, walked through the door. "He took me off the shelf."

Married on September 11, 1948, Barbara and Dick continued at Harvard where he earned his PhD. in Organic Chemistry under Nobel Prize winner Robert Burns Woodward.

In 1950 McCormick and Company hired Dr. Hall and they moved to Baltimore, Maryland where they continued to live.

First daughter, Ann Whitney was born in March of 1951, followed by Nancy Abbott in 1954, and Elizabeth Woodward in 1958, all delivered at what was then known as the Hospital for the Women of Maryland. Women's Hospital eventually became part of Greater Baltimore Medical Center and Barbara immediately began volunteering. Fifty years later, she was still actively involved having served on Unit 36, the Board of Trustees, and was the "shoe lady" at the GBMC twice yearly Nearly New Sale.

She routinely served as the block chair for a number of charitable organizations including the Heart Fund and the American Cancer Society. In addition, Mrs. Hall served as the assistant Girl Scout leader and cookie chairman for the Ridge School.

She nurtured her Maine roots by summering every year on Georges Pond in Franklin, (Down East Maine). She traveled extensively with her husband, visiting every continent repeatedly, except Antarctica. She thoroughly enjoyed meeting people in her travels and finding common interests. Other loves included cats, chocolate, gardening, shelling in Sanibel Island, Florida, and Big Band music, not necessarily in that order.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 64 years, Dr. Richard Leland Hall, Her three daughters Ann Hall Dorr of Sunderland, Massachusetts, Nancy Abbott Cooper of Wilmington, Delaware, and Elizabeth Hall Ottinger of Baltimore, sons in law Alan Neil Cooper and Marc Willson Ottinger and five grandchildren Jeffrey Everett Dorr, Andrew Leland Cooper, Justin Abbott Cooper, Laura Whitney Ottinger, and Abbott Woodward Ottinger.

Please omit flowers. Memorial contributions, in her name, may be made to the Abbott-Hall Scholarship Fund of Bates College, 2 Andrews Rd., Lewiston, Maine 04240.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **30**. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Memorial Service

AUG **31**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Grace United Methodist Church
5407 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21210