Helen Petersen Valine

Helen Petersen Valine, age 91, of Burlington, VT passed away peacefully on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at The Birches in Concord, NH.

She was born in Brooklyn, NY, the daughter of the late Holger and Emma (Pattison) Peterson. She graduated from Burlington High School in 1949, and then furthered her education earning a BA in French at the University of Vermont in 1953 where she was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. Helen met her husband, Duane Valine, at UVM and they were married at the Unitarian Church in Burlington on September 25, 1954. She was a devoted mother to her three children.

Helen was active in the Burlington community. She was a longtime member of the Unitarian Church. She enjoyed young children and for many years supported elementary education working at Champlain School and Lawrence Barnes School. She was on the board of the YWCA, and was a promoter of Camp Hochelaga for many years. She also volunteered at Feeding Chittenden, a local food pantry.

Helen had a deep love of and appreciation for the outdoors. She enjoyed camping on cross-country trips with her family and experiencing the beauty of our national parks. A master gardener, she loved getting up with the first light of the day to tend her flower gardens and to harvest vegetables that she shared with neighboring families. She spent many winters at her condominium in Fort Pierce, Florida where she enjoyed walking on the beaches.

Helen was predeceased by her sister, Jean Alston. She is survived by her son, Peter Valine and his wife, Meg, of Manchester NH, her daughter Karen Chicoine and her husband, Michael, of Easthampton CT, and daughter Sandra Valine, of Pembroke NH. She also leaves her grandchildren Jen Chicoine Olson of Williston VT, Sarah Chicoine Thompson of Fairfax, VA, Christie Valine Canavan of South Boston, MA, Julia Valine of Granby, CT, and two great grandchildren, Wesley Olson and Emily Thompson.

The Valine family would like to thank the dedicated staff at The Birches in Concord and the hospice nurses at the Granite VNA for their kindness and care. Following Helen's wishes there will be no memorial service. To those friends of Helen who would like to honor and celebrate Helen's life, donations in her name can be sent to Feeding Chittenden which is a provider which fights food insecurity in Burlington.