



Helen Patricia Bowdoin

DEC 4, 1935 - FEB 25, 2018



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Longtime Framingham resident Patty Bowdoin, beloved teacher, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, passed away February 25, 2018 in Virginia from a brief illness amidst a long journey with dementia.

Originally from New Brunswick, New Jersey, Patty began her teaching career at two high schools in New Jersey, before moving to Framingham in 1964 to accept a teaching position in the English department of Lincoln-Sudbury Regional HS in Sudbury. She retired from L-S in 1999, having had a distinguished tenure including serving as the head of the English Department, President of the Teachers Association, and recipient of several awards.

In retirement, Patty found the extra time to expand her longtime love of gardening by becoming active in the Framingham Garden Club, serving as its president from 2003 to 2005. She enjoyed decorating and maintaining numerous plantings around the town she had called home for years, and was particularly proud of the club's efforts to improve Cushing Memorial Park/Chapel during her term as president. She also loved working and socializing at the club's annual holiday greens sale, and was an enthusiastic representative for the club's contribution to the annual decorating of Longfellow's Wayside Inn in Sudbury. Her love of gardening also led her to support Tower Hill Botanic Garden in Boylston.

The widow of the late John B. Bowdoin since 1997, Patty moved to Virginia in 2011 to be nearer to her daughter Gabrielle and her family. She was a devoted grandmother who enjoyed leading her two granddaughters on excursions, and infusing them with her lifelong love of baseball, literature, and culture. She never lost her childhood love of the Brooklyn Dodgers, although she grew to love the Red Sox and more recently the Washington Nationals. In recent years, health issues slowed her and dementia narrowed her world, but she maintained her indomitable spirit until her illness of recent weeks. She is survived by her daughter Gabrielle, son-in-law and two granddaughters ages 12 and 9, and by her sister and brother.



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In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in the name of H. Patricia Bowdoin to Tower Hill Botanical Garden in Boylston, Massachusetts. A private family burial is planned. A memorial celebration will be held in Massachusetts later this spring. A remembrance page has been set up at www.foundandsons.com for those who would like to leave comments.



Tribute Wall

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Heather posted:

Hello! I am a blast from the past, but I think of Gabrielle fondly and often, we were friends in elementary school. I so often think of the kindness of your parents when I remember how much I appreciated your friendship. You are a gem, as were your parents. I think of you all with the most fondness of memories and in the deepest part of my heart. I am sorry for your loss, while it has been several years now, I understand how the pain never quite "heals". Much love to you all. From my heart to yours, Heather Brummer

April 8 at 3:02 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Helen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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