



Sarah Jane` Stanhope

January 8, 2016

Sarah Jane Stanhope, Pat or Sadie to her friends and extended family, passed away peacefully in her sleep at Hospice House in Rock Hill, S.C., on Friday, Jan 8, 2016. She was a life-long resident of Portland until the passing of her late husband, John E. Stanhope, Sr. in Feb. 2013. At that time she moved to live with her son Gary and his wife Becky in Indian Land, S.C.

Sarah was born in Portland on April 26, 1921 to Minnie Long and Leonard Austin. She grew up in Portland, and along with her only sibling Alfreda and graduated from Portland High where she got the nickname Sadie.

She spent her early adult years at Birch Knolls, Cape Elizabeth with her two children Gary and Pamela, along with her extended family John and Anita Morton, their son Rick and daughter Sandy and Barbara Alexander.

She met her second husband and the love of her life, John E. Stanhope, Sr. while working at the Portland Gas Light company. He was introduced to her by fellow Portland Police officer Warren Titcomb and his wife Ginny and remained close friends with them for the rest of their years. Sarah and John married in 1959 and moved into their home on Brighton Avenue within the year along with John, Jr., Pamela and Gary, their three children. They remained in the same until John, Sr.'s passing. Sarah worked at the gas company until she retired in the mid 1980's. Sarah loved reading fiction, knitting and cross-stitching.

Sarah and John enjoyed camping and Square Dancing. They and a large group of friends and fellow square dancers would travel throughout northern New England and Canada to square dance and go camping in their yellow VW Camper/Van. They enjoyed their family and spending time with children and grandchildren. Thanksgiving and Christmas were always held for the entire family and extended family at their Brighton Avenue home. Sarah's love of Christmas left many fond memories for all.

Sarah is survived by her sons, Gary Morton and his wife Becky of Indian Land, SC.; John E. Stanhope, Jr. and his wife Elaine of Sebago; daughter Pamela Peterson and her husband James of Portland; eleven grandchildren; Regina Morton of Portland, Greg Morton (Erin) of Gorham , Jennifer Collins (Daryl) of Westbrook, Shannon Collins(Kevin) of Buxton, Todd Peterson of Portland, Ian Stanhope and Brooke Stanhope of Portland, Sean Stanhope (Irene) of Corum, NY, Kaitlin Aceto (Anthony) of San Antonio, TX, Terri Hooper (Mark) of Port St. Lucie, FL, and Sandy Cercone of Boynton Beach, FL. Also surviving are nieces Patricia and Kay, along with eleven great-grandchildren, three great nephews and two great nieces and those members of her extended family from "the Cape Years" (John Morton and Rick Morton).

She was loved and admired by all who knew her well. She will be forever missed by those who were fortunate enough to know her including her most recent extended family in South Carolina, Gabe, Wendy and Brian.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Feb. 19, 2016, 10:00 a.m., at St. Pius X, 492 Ocean Ave., Portland. The service will continue at Calvary Cemetery in South Portland.