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Nancy Ross Stearns, 83

7 hrs ago



Nancy Ross Stearns

GILMANTON — Nancy Ross Stearns, 83, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2018, at Havenwood Heritage Heights in Concord. She was lovingly tended to by family members and nurses during her last hours.

Nancy was born on July 30, 1935, in Littleton, to Isabel (Nute) and Harold A. Ross. Nancy attended Littleton High School and Plymouth State College. Her first teaching position was at Whitefield Elementary School.



In June 1958, she married Maurice “Buz” Stearns. The couple spent their early years in Littleton raising four children. Nancy enjoyed teaching ski lessons at Remich Park and Mt. Eustis, and as a child, spent one summer living on top of Cannon Mountain, where she greeted people riding the tram and built moss houses. She spent many years working for the Department of Employment Security, teaching and tutoring. The family moved to Laconia in 1979 and later to Gilmanton.

When not working, Nancy enjoyed spending time gardening, baking, knitting and sewing. Nancy’s faith in Christian Science gave her comfort and a lasting spirituality. Later in life, her grandchildren and pets were a constant joy in her life. She spent hours playing with her grandchildren and sewing them special blankets. Throughout her life, Nancy selflessly gave many hours to volunteer services, such as town committees, library planning and many conservation groups. Even at the age of 80, Nancy was volunteering her time helping adult refugees learn English.



Nancy is survived by her husband of 60 years, currently at Havenwood Heritage Heights. Nancy is also survived by her four children, Melissa Stearns-Hyde (Scott), Christine Bane (Vince), Gordon Stearns (Jen Drinen), Carrie Stearns, and grandchildren Allegra Hyde, Connor Hyde, Leah Bane,

Tanner Bane, Lauren Stearns, and Gary Stearns.

There will be no funeral services. The family will gather privately in remembrance. Memorial contributions can be made to the New Hampshire Audubon Society or the Gilmanton Year-Round Library.