



Elizabeth Cleland Horne "Betty"

October 4, 2023

Elizabeth Cleland Horne, "Betty," of Longboat Key, FL died peacefully October 4, 2023. She was 103 years old. Betty was born in Chicago in 1920 and spent her childhood in Waukesha, WI.

In 1942, she graduated from Alma College, where she met her adoring Andy. They married in 1943 before Andy was deployed to Italy as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps. They had been married 66 years at the time of Andy's death in 2009.

Betty leaves three sons and their spouses, David Horne (Margarethe Wiersema) of Laguna Beach, CA, Douglas Horne (Sandra) of Alpena, MI, and Daniel Horne (Melissa) of Barrington, RI, a son-in-law, Bradford Harris (Nancy Downing) of Kansas City, MO, grandchildren Brad Williamson, Sheri Swartz, Todd Horne, Andrew Horne, Leah Puskar, Ian Horne, Jon-David Horne and twelve great-grandchildren. A daughter, Sally Harris, predeceased her.

Betty was an educator to the core. She spent her professional life in a variety of teaching positions before ending her career at Great Lakes Junior College, where, in recognition of her teaching excellence, she received the first honorary degree ever granted by the institution. Although she and Andy retired from Saginaw, MI to Longboat Key, she continued to educate through her prolific letter writing to family and friends, where the envelope would

inevitably also contain a newspaper clipping with “Thought you would find this interesting!” scrawled in the margin. She spent over 25 years volunteering at Mote Marine in Sarasota, where nothing gave her more pleasure than the sense of wonder on the faces of the school children as they encountered the fauna of her beloved Gulf of Mexico.

Plans for a celebration of life are incomplete at this time, but those interested in commemorating Betty’s life are asked to consider a memorial gift to the Andrew and Elizabeth Cleland Horne Scholarship fund at Alma College (Alma.edu) or to Mote Marine Laboratory (mote.org).