



Sheila Jane Allen Colby

September 26, 1938 - February 2, 2016

Sheila Colby died on February 2, 2016 at home in Sarasota, Florida. Born in Des Moines, Iowa, to Esther Wilbur Allen and Cecil W. Allen, she and her two older sisters were brought up by their mother in Tulsa Oklahoma.

After Central High School and attending Tulsa University, Sheila earned her BA cum laude in fine arts from Hunter College, New York, and later an MBA from New York University. In Geneva, Switzerland and New York City she worked in different fields, including among others training and employment guidance for immigrants, as assistant to architect Philip Johnson, and in finance with Pfizer.

Her principal interests were literary, including poetry, and a lifelong involvement in painting and the visual arts. She also enjoyed hiking, skiing and travel. In 1988 she departed Pfizer to gain more time for her painting and other varied activities such as earning a pilots license.

Sheila married Frederick J. "Tuck" Colby in 1990. After years in New York City and Connecticut they moved in 2002 to Sarasota where she continued to develop her painting.

She dealt admirably with her increasing Lewy Body disease and Parkinsonism, continuing to travel widely until recent years.

Sheila was preceded in death by her middle sister Nancy Clover. She is survived by her sister Gerleen Crowell; her nephew Mark Crowell (Michelle) and their children; her husband Tuck Colby and his children Scott Colby (Chris) and Julia Cardone (Steve) and their children. Sheila is loved and missed deeply by her good friends and caregivers, and her family.

Graveside service Sarasota Memorial Park 1:00 PM Saturday, February 6.

Funereal arrangements: Toale Brothers, 941-955-4171.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Sarasota Museum of Art.