



PhoebeAnn B. Hamlin

December 21, 1917 - July 13, 2014

PhoebeAnn B. Hamlin, age 96 of Highland, IL, died Sunday, July 13, 2014, at Saint Joseph Hospital in Highland, IL.

She was born on Friday, December 21, 1917, in LaGrange, IL, the daughter of Clem C. and Zoe (nee Benton) Ford.

On Friday, May 29, 1942, she married Thomas C. Hamlin who passed away on Monday, August 19, 1985.

She was a member of Highland Women's Club; Charter member of Edwardsville AAUW; Highland Historical Society.

PhoebeAnn graduated from Lake Erie College with AB, and a Fifth Year Certificate in Physical Education. She chose this school because of its flying program. She piloted aircraft well into the 1950's. She attended Red Cross Aquatic School in Oconomowac, WI, was a Physical Ed Assistant at Lyons TWP High School, Health Ed Secretary at the YMCA in Moline, IL, Head of Programs at Carondelet YMCA in St. Louis, Head of Women's and Girls Classes at YMCA Edwardsville, Water Safety Instructor from 1940 to 1985, Manager of Swim Program at Lindendale Park, and Substitute Teacher at Collinsville and Highland. PhoebeAnn had visited all 50 states and 14 countries. She was a political activist, campaigning such causes as womens

rights, conservation, death with dignity, education for the mentally and physically handicapped, human rights and others. She had been a scout leader, (board member, district chairman, trainer and camp committee) and was an avid bridge player. She always enjoyed hunting, fly-fishing, camping, canoeing & scouting activities. She had been a long-time member of the 99'ers, the original women's pilot organization. She created the Hamlin Water Safety Fund with the Highland Area Community Foundation so that all persons of all ages may learn to swim and know water safety.

Survivors include:

Daughter - Judith Ann Hamlin, Ferndale, MI

Son - Thomas C. (Paulette) Hamlin, III, Du Quoin, IL

Daughter - Patricia Ann Hamlin, Hollywood, FL

Daughter - Wendy Ann Hamlin Vaughan, Highland, IL

Daughter - Elizabeth Ann (Glenn) Hamlin Scholebo, Sadorus, IL

Grandchild - Tomi M. Hamlin, Du Quoin, IL

Grandchild - Thomas C. Hamlin IV, Du Quoin, IL

Grandchild - Bobbiann M. Hamlin, Du Quoin, IL

Grandchild - Karanda L. (Conall) Marshall, Peoria, IL

Grandchild - Jeremy J. (Rene) Bryan, Bethalto, IL

Grandchild - Theresa M. (Chris) Crapser, Middleburgh, NY

Sister - Irene "Renee" Carrol Vaughan, Urbana, IL

She was preceded in death by:

Father - Clem C. Ford

Mother - Zoe Ford nee Benton

Husband - Thomas C. Hamlin, Jr., died 8/19/1985

Daughter - Carol Ann Hamlin died 11/27/2009

Sister - Esther Benton Sessel (died - 2014)

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in

Highland, Illinois.

Celebration of Life will be from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM on Sunday, July 20, 2014,
at Michael's Restaurant in Highland, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hamlin Water Safety Fund @
Highland Area Community Foundation.

Tribute Wall

KK

“ Elizabeth -
Your Unitarian Universalist friends, Kummerow family members, will be in England at Westminster Abbey and the Canterbury Cathedral with UU prayers and kind thoughts of your mother. She was a wonderful role model for all.
Kay K.

Kay Kummerow - July 16, 2014 at 09:55 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of PhoebeAnn B. Hamlin.



July 16, 2014 at 09:50 PM

LS

“ Wendy and family, you are in my prayers. I remember your mother often. She taught me numerous swim lessons growing up. And I owe it to her for me getting back into the pool. When I saw her swimming just a few years ago at the Korte Rec Center she inspired me to swim. I often tell people that I learned from the best PhoebeAnn Hamlin. I remember the Kick Kick Kick also on the metal lifeguard stand. I thank my parents for making us take swimming lessons. You accomplished a lifetime of achievement's. Your children should be proud to say that you were their mother. I will miss seeing you sitting on your front porch when I pass by walking in the parade. Celebrate 96 years WOW!

Thoughts and Prayers
Lynn Schmidt

Lynn Schmidt - July 16, 2014 at 07:53 PM

SF

“ Tom and family,

My deepest condolences on the loss of your mother. She was truly a remarkable woman. My memories of her will always be as "Tom's mom", seeing her at the pool, and the countless swimming lessons I had as a child. She was never my teacher but she was always there.

Sherry (Poss) Fletcher

Sherry Fletcher - July 16, 2014 at 05:50 AM

MM

“ Wendy,
I am so sorry to hearing of the passing of your mom. You have all of my deepest sympathies. I always enjoyed taking care of your mom while I worked at Highland Physicians.
Monica Martin

Monica Martin - July 15, 2014 at 05:58 PM

AN

“ Mrs. Hamlin was always so kind and shared so many stories with me during my highschool years. I used to help her in the yard and Wendy with her nail shop. They both were always so kind and fun to be around. She lived a very full and active life, she will be missed.

Ana - July 15, 2014 at 09:45 AM

MS

“ During my younger, wilder days, Ms Phoebe and Tom Sr. offered me food, shelter and warm feelings for the night all for the price of a song. I shall always treasure her kindness and her wonderful family.

Michael Stone - July 14, 2014 at 09:42 PM

LS

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Phoebe just once ... but immediately pegged her as royalty and named her Queen Phoebe. Having just read about her amazing life, I realize how right I was. What a role model she was for the rest of us! Love and condolences to all the family from the Stone family in San Diego - Michael, Danny & Lee



Lee Stone - July 14, 2014 at 06:23 PM

MM

“ Wendy and Family: So sorry for your loss. I met PhoebeAnn when she volunteered to be a tutor in the Adult Literacy Program. I was the coordinator between the students and the volunteers. She was always so excited to meet with her students and did her best to help them learn to read.

I am grateful to her for setting up the swimming programs for the kids...thanks to her, all three of my children learned to swim.

I enjoyed talking with her. I will always remember her.

Marilyn McDevitt

Marilyn McDevitt - July 14, 2014 at 03:23 PM

DH

“ Dear Wendy and family, your mother was one of my favorite customers when I had my business years ago. We made so many copies of her scrapbooks for her family to share. She was a very sweet lady. She always had a smile, and we shared many jokes and laughs as we worked. Please know that David and I are thinking of you at this time.

Diane Heim - July 14, 2014 at 10:32 AM

LR

“ *Phoebe, Mrs. Hamlin was a great servant to the American Red Cross swimming program. She was a strict advocate of doing it right. Her style of teaching and leading others influenced so many young people, including me, that the numbers can not be counted. Who can forget her pounding on the ladder with a mallet and directing her class with "kick, kick, kick". She was a strong influence in my life and will always be a part of my fondest memories. Lynn Rehberger*

Lynn Rehberger - July 14, 2014 at 09:32 AM

BK

“ *Wendy and family, Please know I am thinking of you during this difficult time. I'll always remember your mother with a smile on her face. With deepest sympathy, Bonnie*

Bonnie Kloss - July 13, 2014 at 10:28 PM

CS

“ *Dear Pat,
I was sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. Reading her obit was very humbling....she was a very involved and active woman of her time. No wonder she lived well into her 90's. When I think of your mother, I always think of her being involved with swimming lessons and the pool. No wonder you chose that as a memorial. It's been a long time since I've seen you. Hope you are well. I send my condolences to all your family.*

Sincerely,

*Cherie (Steiner) Sievers
HHS Class of 1973*

Cherie (Steiner) Sievers - July 13, 2014 at 08:54 PM

KN

*I only knew Phoebe Ann through the internet, but her (sometimes acerbic) comments on life always brightened my days. We both on the mailing / comment list of a mutual friend. I had hoped that she would come to see me in Finland, where I live, we talked about it at length. Although that never happened I was privileged to visit her online often. I am glad to have known her. Condolences on her passing, the world is dimmer without her brightness shining in it.
Kela Ruuskanen, Savonlinna, Finland*

Kaela Nighthurst - July 15, 2014 at 04:37 AM