



Sara Haines

August 26, 2014

Sara Bowman Haines, of Moorestown, New Jersey passed away peacefully in her sleep on Tuesday, August 26th, at the age of 85. She was the beloved wife of Senator C. William (Bill) Haines for 42 years before his death in 1996.

Born in August 1929 to Dorothy and Robert Bowman, Sara (known to many as Sally) grew up in Haddonfield, and remained there until her graduation from Haddonfield High School in 1947. A child of the Great Depression, then the War, she remembered the challenges of those times, made greater by the death of her much-loved father in 1942 when she was 12.

Sara went on to attend Goucher College, then Temple University, and subsequently landed a job working for the Farm Journal, a publication headquartered in Philadelphia.

But, for Sara, life was all about family. She married Bill Haines, a farmer from an old-line Burlington County family, in 1954. As his partner, she embraced the hard work it took to run the 400 acre family fruit farm and raise their four children. A firm believer in giving back, she also found time to volunteer weekly for decades at Memorial Hospital now Virtua of Mt. Holly, an activity she'd begun as a teen -- babies always delighted her -- at Cooper Hospital during the War. When Bill decided to continue the family tradition of holding political office, Sara jumped in and often hosted parties for 200- plus people on the lawn of Hillside, their 18th century farmhouse in Mt. Laurel. After Bill's death, she served on the Board of Trustees of Samaritan Hospice for more than a decade.

A lifelong lover of classical music, Sara attended her first concert of the Philadelphia Orchestra at the age of three and continued to attend religiously until 2011, marking 80 years as a devoted audience member. She also adored animals. Besides the usual household pets, pigs became her animal of choice after her children gave her one -- Pigwig -- for her 40th birthday. "Yes, they can be somewhat smelly," she'd say -- "you'd smell too if you rolled around in dirt -- but pigs are the smartest and nicest animals I know." For the rest of her life she collected pig paintings, drawings and sculptures, all of which filled

her homes. A woman of great curiosity about the world, Sara was an avid reader and a born adventurer. She traveled extensively for decades, and was one of the first people to visit China in 1978 as the closed society opened its doors to westerners.

A loving wife, mother, “Nanny” to her many grandchildren, and good friend, she was wise, generous, honest, upbeat, and fun – with a wicked sense of humor that made her unforgettable to everyone she met. An indomitable character with a big heart, she will be greatly missed by many. She is survived by her children Mary (Brian) Ginter, Charles (Gia) Haines, Susan (Anthony) Cunningham, and Aubrey (Suzie) Haines; adored and adoring grandchildren, Tristan, Katherine, Melissa, Jonathan, Keith, Kim, Alec, Tessa, Sara, Anneke, Ernest, Antony, Charles and Albert; a sister, Mary Mansell and brother, Robert Bowman.

Burial was private. A memorial service will be held on September 12th at 11 am at the Trinity Church in Moorestown NJ. Gifts in her memory can be made to Samaritan Hospice, 5 Eves Drive, Suite 300, Marlton, NJ 08053 or Trinity Episcopal Church 207 West Main Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

Cemetery

Friends Cemetery

Moorestown, NJ,

Events

**SEP
12**

Memorial Service

11:00AM

Trinity Episcopal Church

207 West Main Street, Moorestown, NJ, US, 08057

Comments



“ What laughs she provided for not only her family but for all of her friends and acquaintances. Warm and caring for her family I can only hope to keep my memories of her and her wise words in the forefront of my mind for a long time. I know you are missing her Susan, Tony, Annie, Sara but people like Sally live forever. She just had that way. Love,
Gina

Gina Zegel - September 12, 2014 at 03:03 AM



“ Hello Haines Family. I was saddened to learn of Aunt Sally's passing. She was like a second mother to me in my younger years and a great friend to my parents and our family throughout their lives. Many fond memories. With Sympathy and Love, George Peck

George Peck - September 09, 2014 at 07:31 PM



“ Im very saddened to hear of the passing of your mom. I know how close all four of you were with her. She was mom to her wonderful children and Nanny to all her grandchildren!! I remember the big old house and the huge collection of plants and pigs she kept there. She was a very strong lady and I'm sure she will be missed by a tremendous number of people! My heart and prayers go out to Mary and the rest of the family. I know myself how excruciatingly painful it is to lose a parent! We just expect that they'll always be here for us. I can feel your pain and emptiness and pray for strength to help you through this very difficult time

Linda C. Nims - September 07, 2014 at 05:51 PM