



Martha Abbott Holland

January 14, 1932 - April 1, 2017

Martha King Abbott Holland, 85, of Chestertown, MD, formerly of Concord, MA, died on Saturday, April 1, 2017, in Washington, DC. Born in New York City, NY, on January 14, 1932, she was the eldest of four children born to the late Rev. Frederic Everett Abbott and Frances (Reyburn) Abbott.

Martha spent the early part of her childhood in Katonah, NY. During World War II, she lived in Panama where her father was in command of the post exchange. She graduated from Rosemary Hall and Wellesley College with a BA in History, and went on to receive an MS in Education from University of Pennsylvania. For a year, Martha served as the Assistant Director of Grenfell Mission orphanage in St. Anthony, Newfoundland. She taught first grade at Friends Central School in Philadelphia, PA, and also taught at Bedford-Rippowam School in Bedford, NY.

In August 1956, Martha married her husband, Frederick, and the family moved to Massachusetts in 1966. Martha began working as a sales clerk at the Concord Depot in 1977, and then opened her own store, Martha's Studio of Fine Miniatures, which she ran until 1985. She was also head of shipping and receiving at The Concord Bookshop, and a volunteer bird watching instructor for the National Audubon Society at Drumlin Farm in Lincoln. In 1990, she received her Masters in Historical Archaeology from UMass Boston. Martha did field work at Old Sturbridge Village and Brook Farm, and went on

to participate in archaeological digs at Carew Castle in Wales, Hadrian's Wall in Cumbria, England, and Nan Ranch in New Mexico.

In 2005, Martha retired and moved to Chestertown, MD, with her husband Frederick, where she kept active. She served as secretary for the Kent County Democrats and could be found on Saturday mornings presiding over the Democrats' booth with the rest of the "Dawn Patrol" at the Chestertown Farmers' Market. She was a member of the League of Women Voters, the Woman's Literary Club, and was selected "Volunteer of the Year" by the United Way for her tireless work, together with her beloved sister, delivering fresh eggs each week to the Kent County Community Food Pantry. An avid and talented quilter, Martha was a member of the Old Kent Quilters Guild. Many of her beautiful quilts have been on display at the Chestertown Library, Heron Point, and the Evergrain Bread Company.

Martha had many passions, and pursued them all with joy. She loved the Red Sox and the Patriots, birding, learning about WWII history, quilting, knitting, working on dollhouse miniatures, sailing, playing the recorder and penny whistle, painting watercolors, reading mystery novels, and all things British. Most of all, she loved spending time surrounded by her large and loving family.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Dr. Frederick C. Holland; their children, Peter of Ann Arbor, MI, Daniel of New York City, NY, David of Petersham, MA, Martha of Newtown, PA, and Sarah of South Portland, ME. She is also survived by her sister Frances of Chestertown, MD; her brother Samuel of Brookline, MA; nine grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Martha was predeceased by her sister, Frederica, of Charlottesville, VA, and by her infant son, Samuel.

A funeral service will be held for Martha on Saturday, April 8 at 1 p.m. at

Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 130 Speer Road,
Chestertown, MD.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Martha to the Kent
County Public Schools Special Projects Fund, % Chesapeake Charities, 101
Log Canoe Circle, Suite O, Stevensville, MD 21666, or to a charity of your
choice.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Chestertown Location
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 778-0055
info@fhnfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Martha Abbott Holland*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - April 05, 2017 at 11:01 AM



“ *Martha Abbott Holland*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Martha Abbott Holland*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Martha Abbott Holland*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Anne Wagner - April 14, 2017 at 04:31 PM

AW

I had the pleasure of working with Martha at the Concord Bookshop. She was an avid reader, a tremendous resource, and—most importantly—a beloved colleague. All of us from the bookshop keep her in our hearts.

Anne Wagner - April 14, 2017 at 04:36 PM

AH

“ *Your photo of Martha is my best memory of her- her wonderful smile! She will be greatly missed in our neighborhood and community. Anna Hurd*

Anna Hurd - April 08, 2017 at 08:24 AM

AP

“ *2 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Alison Pirie - April 07, 2017 at 03:57 PM

RS

“ *Ron Harrison and Rosa Smith purchased the Traquil Seas for the family of Martha Abbott Holland.*



Ron Harrison and Rosa Smith - April 07, 2017 at 02:01 PM

DH

“ *Dennis And Judith Hickman lit a candle in memory of Martha Abbott Holland*



Dennis and Judith Hickman - April 06, 2017 at 02:41 PM

KF

“ *Francie, we are so sorry for your sad, unexpected loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your whole family.*



Ken and Kathy Fisher.

Ken & Kathy Fisher - April 06, 2017 at 02:32 PM

PC

“ *I am devastated to have lost my dear friend. We had such lovely times together visiting dollshouse shows, driving round chatting – often about her children although I haven't met them all, and laughing together about so many things from people to books to politics. We even shared a room at Castine for a week long miniatures' course. We haven't met for a while, being 3,000 miles apart, but Chris and I still hoped she would make the trip here – and now it will never happen — and I can't even say goodbye! I can only guess what it is like for all of you, her family, and Chris I send our love.*

Pat Cutforth - April 06, 2017 at 09:32 AM

LI

“ *Luisa's Cucina Italiana lit a candle in memory of Martha Abbott Holland*



Luisa's Cucina Italiana - April 05, 2017 at 06:09 PM

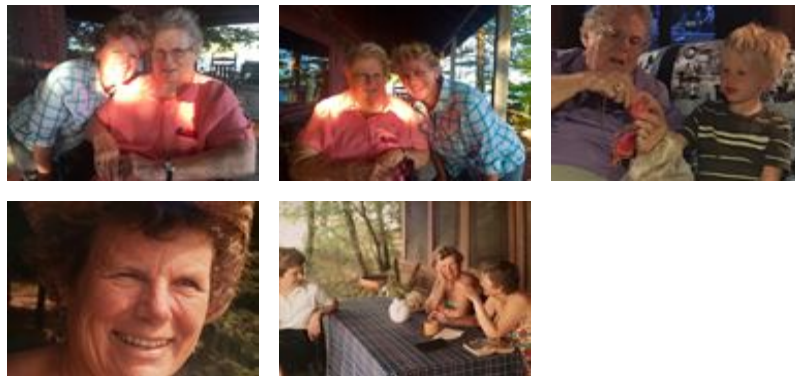
NW

“ *I first met Martha as a fellow member of the Olde Kent Quilters. She loved applique, as did I, and bird watching (as did I). Our ultimate bonding was when we both realized we were devoted to the works of Dorothy Dunnett - I had never met another local person who was acquainted with Dorothy's works. As time went on, ill health on both sides limited our meetings, but she will always remain in my memory as a dear friend. I will miss her so very much.*

Nanacy Wyman - April 05, 2017 at 02:28 PM



“ *175 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - April 05, 2017 at 08:16 AM

LP

“ *Lola Price lit a candle in memory of Martha Abbott Holland*



Lola Price - April 05, 2017 at 07:10 AM

JE

“ *Josie Elburn lit a candle in memory of Martha Abbott Holland*



Josie Elburn - April 04, 2017 at 07:57 PM

DS

“ *David And Donell Smith lit a candle in memory of Martha Abbott Holland*



David and Donell Smith - April 03, 2017 at 09:41 AM