

MURIEL C. WEEKS



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ITHACA – Muriel C. Weeks, beloved mother, teacher, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed from this earth on March 13, 2008 in Billings, Montana surrounded by family. Muriel was born in East Greenbush, NY on September 15, 1916 to Everett and Marie Crear. She spent a happy childhood with her brothers, Paul and Everett; and sister, Elaine, in Albany, Glen Falls and in the Adirondack Mountains of NY near the village of Schroon Lake where she enjoyed the mountains, fields and

woods, and the one room schoolhouse. The Adirondacks eventually became her permanent home.

Muriel graduated valedictorian from Schroon Lake High School in 1933 at age 16. She attended Albany State College for Teachers, eventually majoring in science. On graduating in 1938, the country was in the depths of depression and teaching jobs were scarce. Muriel returned to Schroon Lake and married Sidney R. Weeks. Together they had three daughters, Sondra-1940, Judy-1943, and Nancy-1944.

When the marriage ended, Muriel returned to obtain her Master's degree in Education at Albany and became the teacher she always wanted to be.

She began her career teaching at Ellenberg, NY in 1949 and then in 1953 became a teacher of Biology at Ithaca High School, Ithaca, NY, touching the lives of many until she retired in 1978.

During this time she had the honor of being selected into a program of Teacher Education in East Africa at Nkozi Teacher Training College in Nkozi, Uganda from 1968 thru 1970. It was the highlight of her career, fostering a love of Africa and enabling her to also visit other overseas destinations.

Muriel never stopped learning and never stopped teaching others. She shared her love and appreciation of nature with family and friends, often sharing the simple joy of a walk together in the woods. Her grandchildren have fond memories of these walks where she could name all the plants and animals including genus and species. She was the inspiration and anchor of her family, a great lady who will be sorely missed.

Muriel is survived by two daughters, Nancy Poolet and Sondra Quick; seven grandchildren, Valerie McKenzie, Cherie McGinn, Danny McKenzie, Michael Quick, Laura Haynes, Alex Poolet and Robert Lesson; eight great-grandchildren, Anna and Korin O'Dohercy, McKenzie "Lizzie" McGinn, Kyle McKenzie, Connor and Malachi Quick, Cassandra Poolet and Grace Poolet; and one great-great-grandson, Andrew Eddy.

A memorial service will be in Schroon Lake at a later time and will be announced.