



Arlene Simmons DeLange

May 25, 1916 - July 9, 2020

Troy- Arlene Simmons DeLange passed away on July 9, 2020. The daughter of Orrin and Florence Hubbard Simmons, Arlene was born on the family farm in Eagle Harbor, Orleans County, New York, on May 25, 1916. She married James C. DeLange on August 10, 1939 and they had many wonderful years together until his death in 1984.

Arlene celebrated her 100th birthday at Atria Assisted Living Center in Albany with a party in which Mayor Kathy Sheehan presented her with a proclamation naming May 25, 2016 as “Arlene DeLange Day” in the City of Albany. She received a State Senate resolution from Senator Neil Breslin, and letters of congratulations from Congressman Paul Tonko, Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli and President and Mrs. Barack Obama. She was featured on the Smucker’s label on the Today Show. Family from around the country celebrated with a brunch to mark the occasion.

Arlene graduated from Lockport High School and attended Buffalo State College. She served for many years as secretary to the principal of the Olcott Elementary School in the Newfane Central School District.

She served as a Girl Scout and Brownie Leader, a Sunday school teacher, choir, and board member of the Newfane Methodist Church. She was an excellent baker, winning the Niagara County Apple Pie Baking Contest. She taught sewing classes at the Niagara County Cooperative Extension in Lockport. She was the last surviving member of her bridge club, the “Jolly 8”, who were friends from high school and college.

She loved to travel. She and Jim were fortunate to visit Australia, New Zealand, England, and many areas of the United States.

She leaves behind her daughter, Lynne Cole and her husband, Paul, of Cohoes; daughter Donna Roberts and her husband Peter, of Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia; and son Martin and his wife, Meg, of Downingtown, Pennsylvania. She is also survived by grandchildren Dr. Emily Cole Bayer (Tom), Martin Cole (Linda), Matthew Roberts (Marietta), Dr. Jason

Roberts (Lynn), Nathan DeLange and great grandchildren Sarah, Kevin and Jason Cole; Cassidy and Clark Bayer; Katy, Will, Zoe, Whitten, Hannah Kate and Mason Roberts. She is survived by several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister Carol Beakman, her brother Roland (Bud) Simmons and her grandson Ben Roberts.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Coburg Village of Rexford and Atria Assisted Living Center for their many kindnesses that made her life there so enjoyable. They also want to thank the staff at Eddy Memorial Geriatric Center of Troy and the Community Hospice who made her last days comfortable and peaceful.

A family burial service will be held at Cold Springs Cemetery in Lockport, New York, where she will be interred next to her husband, Jim, her parents, and grandmother.

Remembrances in honor of Arlene can be made by a donation to the Northeastern Association of the Blind, 301 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12206 whose services helped her to overcome the challenges to her limited sight.

To leave Arlene's family a message on their guestbook, light a candle, or view other helpful services, please visit www.mcveighfuneralhome.com

Comments



“ To Marty and The DeLange Family, I want to express my deepest Sympathy and Condolences for the loss of your Mother. She was a great lady to know throughout my times growing up going to school at Olcott Elementary. Mrs, DeLange always had a smile on her face and always ask if she could help you in any way. Even as you, Marty and meg; your Mom always supported everything throughout our High School Years. May Mrs. DeLange Rest in Peace and never forgotten.
Randy L. Phillipp
Class of 75
Newfane Central School



Randy L. Phillipp - July 14 at 11:30 AM



“ I did not know Arlene but know she was an awesome woman as I see that reflected in her Daughter, Donna. A classmate with Donna in Nursing School 5 decades+ ago, I have admired how she has always spoken so lovingly about her Mom. Those stories told, which are now pecious memories, will be cherished by all. Cathy (Wilma) McPhee

Cathy McPhee - July 13 at 08:54 PM



“ Your mom worked for my dad, Malcolm Redmore, at Olcott Elementary for many years. I would go with my dad frequently during the summer when he went to work. We would take bag lunches and the three of us would eat together. I also got to “help” your mom with some of her work! Good memories. My sympathies to your family. Your mom was a gem!
Joanne Redmore

Joanne Redmore - July 11 at 08:46 PM



“ Marty & Meg,

So sorry to hear about the passing of your Mom I hope you are well.
Carolyn (Poole) Welch



“ My condolences to Arlene's family. She was a long-time Secretary at the Olcott Elementary School..I was a long-time secretary at the Newfane Senior High. We had many good times as the secretaries in the system were all friendly with each other as we had many meetings AND parties. Lots of good memories. I did know all of the DeLange kids in Senior High and my sympathy to all of them and their families. She will be missed. Love, Jeanette Truax Hamminga, formerly of Olcott, NY



R. Jeanette Hamminga - July 11 at 12:36 AM



“ Aunt Arlene was such a happy and beautiful woman. I spoke with her by phone when she was in her late 90s, and we had a very good conversation. I called her from the beach in front of Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach and later found out that Donna and Peter had a condominium there as did I. I talked to my sister Sue July 8th, and we reminisced about the visits to Newfane on Sundays in the 1950s, and we talked about Aunt Arlene, Uncle Jim and all you guys. Those were fun times playing and running to the store for pop etc. I still drive by the house on West Ave frequently, usually enroute to Bys popcorn on Sundays. I remember Aunt Arlenes grandmother (I believe) living upstairs back then; seems like her name was Grandma Tom or something?? Marty, you were always several years younger than me, and Lynn, you were several years older (Donna in the middle), so, there was quite a spread there. Enjoyed Lynn and Paul's renewal of vows, and would like to see the family again when you come to town, if possible. Paul DeLange

Paul DeLange - July 14 at 10:54 AM



“ My condolences to Marty, Meg and family.

WOW 104 years old!

I remember your mom as being so positive when I knew her.....45 years ago!

brad - July 10 at 10:32 PM