



Vivian G. Howes

JUN 24, 1913 - JUN 7, 2012



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Vivian Graham Howes, 99 years, passed away at the Hospice House, Ft Myers, Florida, June 7, 2012. She is survived by her daughters, Martha (Pattie) Carcaba of Ft. Myers and Roberta (Bobbie) Littlefield and Bobbie's husband, James Littlefield of Blacksburg, Virginia, and by her grandchildren, Timothy Carcaba of Houston, Texas, Jeannette Richter and her husband Ted Richter, of Ft. Myers, Fla., Lorian Kyle of Charlotte, N.C., Shana Criner and spouse, Reg. Milbank of Blacksburg, VA and Shana's two children, Dustin Rowland and Caitlin Criner, also by her sister-in-law, Sarah Louisa Prado of Vero Beach, Florida, her nephew Bill Prado, and niece, Louisa Zokvic. Vivian Howes was born to Bertha and Abner Cameron, June 24, 1913 in New Castle, Pennsylvania. She and her siblings were adopted by their beloved stepfather, Archie Graham. The day after her high school graduation, at age 16 years, she came to Orlando, Florida with her brother, sister and twice widowed mother, fondly known as "Muz". There, she was married to William C. Howes, October 15, 1932. Bill Howes was descended from a long line of sea captains, so it was no surprise that he had enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserves in 1929 at age 17yrs. When WW II broke out, he transferred to regular Navy and the family began its many military moves to various assignments in Florida, Virginia, Rhode Island, Japan and eventually, in 1960, back to Florida at Green Cove Springs where he and Vivian retired. Vivian lived with Bill Howes for seven years on their thirty-seven foot sailboat, Ichiban, a Tahiti Ketch, cruising the Bahamas and Virgin Islands while they awaited the completion of their future house site and back yard boat slip in Cape Coral, Florida. Eventually they moved inland to Ft. Myers when it still resembled a rather quaint town. Vivian worked for the U.S. Army, during WW II, as a cryptographer when it was discovered she had a special ability to decode enemy messages. Interestingly, Bill also worked as a cryptographer for the Navy Department and received recognition for "breaking" the Japanese code. Vivian was known for her



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positive outlook and fun loving approach to life. Well into her nineties, she enjoyed word puzzles (not too surprising), visiting and cooking for relatives and friends, playing and teaching Bridge and telling stories about her adventures on the “high seas” with Bill. Vivian was preceded in death by Bill Howes, her husband for 62 years, by her sister, Thelma Blanchard of Florida and her brother, Jim Graham of Virginia, also by her niece Maria Prado Moore and by her good friend and brother-in-law, Arthur Prado of Vero Beach, Florida. In lieu of flowers, a gift may be made to a favorite charity of choice.



Tribute Wall

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SH

Shirley Libby/Martha Helfand posted:

Pattie, just heard about your mom passing away at the luncheon today. We are very sorry. Please accept our condolences. You are in our thoughts, Shirley and Marty

July 11 at 4:06 PM

JC

Jim Connell posted:

I have known Vivian as a friend and neighbor for over 10 years. A nicer person you could never find. She loved to tell her "sailing" history. Always had a good word for everyone. Her daughter, Patti, was always by her side, and was devoted to her Mother in her later years. It was a pleasure to have know such a wonderful person.

June 12 at 5:11 PM

KH

Karen Holstein posted:

Dear Bobbie, Words fall short of expressing our sorrow for the loss of your mother, Viv. She was an amazing woman, and so are you. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. With love and friendship, Karen & Don

June 11 at 10:55 AM

DL

David And Martha Littlefield posted:

Dear Bobbie, We were saddened by news of the loss of your Mother, and send our condolences to you and your family. We were so impressed in reading the summary of her unusal life experiences. It seems that the paths she walked were interesting, often unusual, and fun. We are sorry now that we never had the opportunity to meet her. Our hearts are with you and your family at this time of great loss. With love, David and Martha Littlefield

June 11 at 10:09 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Vivian by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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