

Half Staff – Phyllis Baker

October 25, 2003

ROCKPORT -- Phyllis (Hinman) Baker, 80, wife of Dr. J. Wain Baker of Rockport, died Saturday at the Den-Mar Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Rockport. Mrs. Baker was born in Enosburg Falls, Vt., March 1, 1923 to the late Dr. Howard D. Hinman and Esther (Wonson) Hinman, who was originally from East Gloucester. She graduated from Northfield School for Girls in Massachusetts in 1940 and then attended Colby Junior College and Beverly Hospital nursing school where she earned her R.N. in 1944.

Mrs. Baker met her husband during the Thanksgiving break in 1940 through her roommate, Cynthia Baker, Dr. Baker's sister. They married June 11, 1944, when Dr. Baker was back from the Pacific to join a new ship. Mrs. Baker worked at Childrens Hospital in Washington, D.C., between 1944 and 1945. Her family writes that she "enjoyed gardening, music and was a member of the Sandy Bay Yacht Club, Rockport Art Association and Rockport Golf Club. She was a founding member of The Book Club of Cape Ann in the early 1950s."

Mrs. Baker is survived by her husband Dr. J. Wain Baker of Rockport; son Steven Baker and his wife Ruthann of North Kingstown, R.I.; daughter, Betsy, wife of Edmond Salas of Rockport; three grandchildren, Nicholas and Chelsea Baker of North Kingstown, R.I., and Shelby Salas of Rockport; four step-grandchildren Jason and Erin Salas of California, Richard and Nathan Salas of Rockport; and special grandchildren Jesse and Lyle Fielding of North Kingstown, R.I.; nephews Chris and Carl Hinman of San Diego, Calif., Mark Hinman of Seaford, Va.; cousins Priscilla (Wonson) Hahn of North Reading, Dr. Carroll Wonson of Orr's Island, Maine; brother-in-law Dr. Robert Baker and his wife Evelyn of Marblehead.

She was predeceased by her son Timothy Wain Baker and brother Carlton W. Hinman of New Jersey.

A memorial service will be held in the First Congregational Church, Rockport, Nov. 8, at 11 a.m. Family and friends are invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Eastern Massachusetts, 36 Cameron Ave., Cambridge, Mass., 02140, or to the Sandy Bay Yacht Junior Sailing Program, T-Wharf, Rockport, Mass., 01966. Funeral arrangements are being conducted by the Burgess & Mackey Funeral Home, 201 Main St., Rockport.