Half Staff – Priscilla F. (Davis) Runkle

February 6, 2013



North Billerica — Priscilla F. (Davis) Runkle, 84, daughter of the late Emery W. and Dorothy F. S. (Batey) Davis, died peacefully in her sleep in North Billerica on Wednesday, February 6, 2013. Priscilla was born and raised in Gloucester. She was a graduate of Gloucester High School and attended Colby College in Maine for two years before her marriage to the late James O. Runkle of Gloucester.

The couple resided for many years in Bedford, before retiring back to Gloucester in 1986. Family was always central to Priscilla's life. She loved nature and loved watching the birds that came to her birdfeeder, and loved walking in the wooded area behind her home and finding the rare lady slipper flowers in the spring. She excelled at handiwork and loved to do tole painting, knitting, sewing, needlepoint and especially quilting. She lovingly made a nap quilt for each of her four grandchildren.

Priscilla's other main passion was genealogy and she spent many wonderful years exploring graveyards and libraries researching her husband's and her own ancestral line. She was active in the Bedford Historical Society and formed the 'BGs,' the Bedford Genealogists, a group that got together monthly to help each other with their genealogical research. She served on the Board of The Sargent House Museum in Gloucester, served for many years as the registrar for the Cape Ann Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and she was a member of the Mayflower Society.

She is survived by her daughter, Virginia and husband, Tom Scott of Morgan Hill, Calif.; and her son, Paul E. Runkle and wife, Sue Nindel of North Billerica. She leaves her grandchildren, James Scott of Olympia, Wash., Kendra Scott of Campbell, Calif., and Scott and Kimberly Runkle of North Billerica.

ARRANGEMENTS: A memorial service will be held at the Independent Christian Church, 10 Church St., Gloucester, on May 25 at 10 a.m. Donations may be made in her memory to the Building Fund of the Independent Christian Church, 10 Church St., Gloucester, MA 01930 or to The Sargent House Museum, 49 Middle St., Gloucester, MA 01930. For more information and to send online condolences, please visit www.grondinfuneralservices.com