

Half Staff – Janet Harrison Peterson

December 30, 2009

ROCKPORT — Janet Harrison (Motherway) Peterson, 99, wife of the late Roland F. Peterson, formerly of 42 High St., Rockport, and Walpole, died on Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2009 in Indianapolis. She was born in Gloucester on Oct. 19, 1910, daughter of the late James and Emma (Londergon) Motherway. She married Roland Francis Peterson in Washington, D.C. on July 24, 1942 and is survived by her daughter, Marcia L. Miller and her husband John W. Miller of Indianapolis; and her son, Mark F. Peterson of Gaithersburg, Md. “Nanna” was survived by four grandchildren, M. Amy (Peterson) Almeida of West Chester, Pa., Andrew F. Peterson of Boston, J. Elliott Miller of Indianapolis and Elizabeth L. Peterson of Boston; and three great-grandchildren, Ellen, Charlie and Chloe Almeida.

Janet was a graduate of Gloucester High School, Class of 1928 and a cum laude graduate of Tufts University, Class of 1932, with a B.A. in French. Janet was Vice President and General Manager of Suburban Girl, a Division of E.P. Reardon Associates, in Dedham, from 1967 to her retirement in Rockport in 1977. While leading Suburban Girl, Janet grew it from a startup to the leading temporary and permanent administrative staffing agency serving the high-tech Metro West market.

Janet’s hobbies were bridge and gardening. She earned her first World Bridge Federation Masters points in a World-Wide Duplicate bridge tournament when she was 75. Her retirement allowed her to develop a multi-season flower garden in her Rockport yard where many artists and photographers sought permission to paint and shoot her garden, which she always granted. Her favorite painting which hung in her room was titled by the artist “Rockport’s First Garden.”

ARRANGEMENTS: Her funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, April 30, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church, Gloucester. Relatives and friends are cordially invited to attend. The burial will be held in Oak Hill Cemetery, Gloucester. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in her memory to Meals on Wheels, c/o Senior Care, 5 Blackburn Center, Gloucester, MA 01930 or to the Our Lady of Good Voyage Church Bell Restoration Fund, 142 Prospect St., Gloucester, MA 01930. Funeral arrangements are by the Greely Funeral Home, 212 Washington St., Gloucester. Online condolences may be given at www.greelyfuneralhome.com