

# Carey Prouty

Carey Elizabeth Tatro Prouty died on Friday, Oct. 8 at the age of 95. Born in Millbury, Mass., she was the daughter of Joseph and Edna (Smith) Tatro.

Carey was a 1936 graduate of Smith College. Her junior year abroad in France started her love of travel and her piano studies as a music major led to a long musical career. Following graduation she taught music at the Laurel School in Cleveland, Ohio, then returned east to teach music at Concord Academy until 1941. She married Donald Brown Prouty of Littleton in 1939. They lived in Corpus Christi, Texas and Miami, Fla. during Don's Navy shore duty before he was sent to the Atlantic and Mediterranean theaters. Settling in Littleton with her husband and two daughters after the war, she plunged into community activities. She served as Choir Director for the First Church Unitarian for 25 years and produced several operettas with the community children's chorus. She also enjoyed a long association with the Concord Music Club and the Concord Chorus holding offices in both and was a member of CAMSA. She often accompanied area music groups and was an accomplished soprano, singing lead roles in such musicals as *Amahl* and the *Night Visitors*, *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

In 1972 Cary resumed teaching piano both privately and at Nashoba Brooks School in Concord. After retirement she and Don were free to indulge their love of travel, and to play an active role as loving, involved grandparents to seven grandchildren on two continents. They also embarked on a major forestry project on the Littleton property. During these years Carey continually broadened her horizons through courses at the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement and seminars at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in England. She was very pleased to serve on the Board of the



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Indian Hill Music Center in Littleton for four years and was an enthusiastic and successful fund raiser. After Don's death

in 2002, the Littleton house and property were sold to the New England Forestry Foundation as their headquarters and renamed Prouty Woods. Carey relocated to Carleton-Willard Village in Bedford and embraced her new life at 88 with gusto, enjoying symphony and theater trips, playing and performing in two chamber music groups and serving as a skilled accompanist at Sunday and memorial services. She also partook wholeheartedly in play-reading as well as a weekly walking group in the Concord/Bedford area. She was eagerly anticipating a large family gathering at her former home in Littleton on October 10 for the marriage of her eldest granddaughter (also a music major), and especially relished the thought that the wedding march would include bongos and maracas!

Carey was a consummate musician, sharing her talent, skill and joy in creating music with family, friends, community and her many piano students until the day of her death.

She is survived by two daughters, Pamela Ikauniks of Concord and Melissa Hodgson of Salisbury, England; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and her brother-in-law, Roger Warren Prouty.

A memorial service will be held at the First Church Unitarian in Littleton on Sunday, Nov. 28, at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorial contributions to the Indian Hill Music School, the First Church Unitarian and the New England Forestry Foundation.