

Anna Olga Plepis Shaw

December 6, 1926 – March 10, 2013

Obituary

Anna Olga Plepis Shaw, 86, passed away peacefully on March 10, 2013, surrounded by her family. She lived a long life full of love, service, teaching, learning, travel, adventure and so much more. She was the sweetest, strongest and most smiling woman we know. Anna was born December 6, 1926, in Hanover Township, PA, to Lithuanian immigrants George Plepis and Dorothy Dubra. She was raised in Pennsburg, PA, and then attended George Washington University in Washington, DC, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Physical Education and was a member of Delta Gamma. She later earned a master's degree in Guidance Counseling from the University of Delaware. She married Alan Alfred Shaw on September 17, 1950, in Philadelphia, PA, and together raised their family of three children in Claymont, Delaware. Anna was a PE teacher and then later, a guidance counselor. She retired to St. George in 1984 after the passing of her husband. Anna was very involved in many community organizations, including the first president of the Democratic Women of Washington County and president of the St. George Historical Society. She served on the committee for the restoration of the Pioneer Courthouse and was very involved in the Art Community in Southern Utah, encompassing Art in the Park, the St. George Art Museum, and various art shows held at the Pioneer Courthouse. In addition, she managed publicity for the Institute for Continued Learning and the Southwest Guild, was involved in organizing and promoting the World Senior Games, was an active member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and volunteered at the DOVE Center. Anna loved playing bridge and was very active in several bridge groups. She also loved to travel and literally traveled the world visiting every continent on various ElderHostel tours. She enjoyed swimming and competed in water ballet in college. She loved being around people and was a friend to all. Her greatest joys came from her children and grandchildren. She took great pride in their accomplishments and supported them in their goals and aspirations. She is survived by her daughters Cynthia Lam and Kathleen (Brent) Bluth; nine grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alan Alfred Shaw; her son, Michael Alan Shaw; her sister Hilda P. Murphy; her brother Herbert Plepis; and her son-in-law, Robert Lam. A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 15, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Metcalf Mortuary, 288 West St. George Blvd., St. George, Utah. Interment will be in Wilmington, Delaware at later date. Arrangements entrusted to the care of Metcalf Mortuary, (435) 673-4221. The family wishes to express its genuine appreciation to the staffs at St. George Care Center and Dixie Regional Medical Center for their professional care and kindness.