



Evelyn Louise Farley

February 7, 1917 - May 26, 2012

Evelyn Farley

PRINCETON — Evelyn Farley, 95, passed away on May 26 at her Princeton home with daughters Joan (Robert) Mandell and Judy O'Brien at her side.

Evelyn was born on Feb. 7, 1917, the third of five daughters of Joseph and Bertha Verbeke of Tiskilwa. In 1937 she married Ralph Farley and together they bore three children. Rita Farley Valentine preceded Evelyn in death in 1997. Ralph Farley died on Oct. 10, 1983.

Evelyn enjoyed a wide variety of interests throughout her life. She was a private pilot and, together with Ralph, flew all over the United States using only a Rand McNally map. Evelyn held numerous positions with the Illinois Flying Farmers and hosted fly-in breakfasts at the landing field on their farm outside of Princeton. She was an active volunteer in several organizations including the Illinois Valley Hospice, the Republican Party, the Act IV theater group, and she worked to establish the Prairie Arts Children's Theater.

Evelyn loved to travel and saw a great deal of the world including Italy, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Kenya and Egypt, and virtually all of the United States.

She loved nature and hosted walks for local children on her timber land, identifying plants, birds, and telling stories about how Indians and early settlers used native plants and herbs. She was a dedicated mushroom hunter and spent long days pursuing morels for family and friends.

Evelyn was an avid golfer and a longtime member of the Bureau Valley Country Club. She played a mean game of bridge and her last game took place one month before she died.

A memorial is being established to support Evelyn's interest in performing arts in the community.

A memorial service will be held at St. Louis Catholic Church on Friday, June 1, at 10 a.m.

Cemetery Details

Sterling Wilbert Crematory

Sterling, IL