



Alys Kennedy

August 24, 1921 - April 1, 2012

Alys H. Kennedy, 90, Fargo, died April 1, 2012, in Sanford Medical Center, Fargo, after a long and full life surrounded by family.

Alys was born August 21, 1921, in Litchville, N.D., to Clara (Haarsager) and John Hayfield. She joined sisters Lorraine and Crystal.

Alys graduated from grade school in 1935 and was first in her high school graduating class of 1939. She attended college in Fargo for two years before moving to Chicago in 1941. There Alys worked for Church Rickards and Company, a Chicago magazine distributor, for 23 years, rising to the position of office manager, the highest position available at that time for a woman. In the mid-1970s she began working for the Arthur Vin-ing Davis Foundations, a national philanthropic organization, initially in Miami, and then in Jacksonville, Fla., when the Foundations relocated there. She retired in 1988 as an administrative officer and moved to Chicago, where she was an active volunteer at the Art Institute and shared her wit as a frequent letter writer to the Chicago Tribune.

Alys married Robert H. "Ace" Kennedy in Hyde Park, Chicago, on Jan. 5, 1946. They divorced in 1954.

Alys married Forest Wilson in 1964. Wilson's children from a previous marriage, Robin, Holly and Scott lived with the couple. They later divorced in 1971, but Holly and Robin remained with Alys.

Alys will be remembered fondly as a fashionable dresser and successful career woman with a sharp wit, who also excelled at the domestic arts by delighting her frequent party guests with gourmet cooking.

Alys was preceded in death by her parents; and two sisters, Lorraine (Albert H.) Berg, and Crystal (Albin) Ol-son.

She is survived by daughters, Dr. Holly L. Wilson, Monroe, La., Robin, Maplewood, N.J.; son, Scott F. Wil-son, Springfield, Ohio; three grandchildren, Brok Wilson, Springfield, Ohio, and Kaitlin "Katie" and Ryan, Maplewood; two nephews, Scott Olson and Michael Olson, Fargo; and a niece, Lois (Melvin) Wieck, Litchville, N.D.

A graveside service will be held June 23 at 10 in North LaMoure Cemetery, Litchville, N.D.

A small gathering will follow at the Joel and Laurie Miedema farm near Marion, N.D.

Tribute Wall



“ I got to know Alys during her stay at Rosewood on Broadway. She was a lovely lady, full of joy, spirit and class, and I think of her often. On Angel's Wings she now flies free!!
Sue Richardson

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