

OBITUARY

MARCIA D. (SHIRO) BECKERMAN
1915-2013



WATERVILLE -- Marcia D. (Shiro) Beckerman, 98, died peacefully at her home in Waterville surrounded by her family on September 29, 2013. She will be dearly missed by her close family and many close friends.

Born in Boston on July 13, 1915, Marcia was the eldest of the six children of Celia and Louis Shiro, including her brothers Oren, Burt, and Teddy, and sisters Anna, and Gladys.

When Marcia was nine years old her family moved from Newtonville, Massachusetts to Waterville and eventually established The Jefferson Hotel, one of the largest and finest restaurants in Maine and New England. Marcia attended local schools and graduated from Waterville High School in 1932. Shortly after high school Marcia went to Los

Angeles and took classes at Woodbury College while observing the movie industry with the help of her two cousins Dick and Maurice Kline who were born in Waterville and worked in the movie business in Los Angeles. It was in L.A. where Marcia began her career in movie film distribution which took her to New York City and then Chicago for a period of years as she worked her way up to very responsible administrative positions with Films, Inc. which distributed movies during World War II to the US troops throughout the world.

In 1946 Marcia married Dr. Stanley C. Beckerman, a young doctor from Brooklyn, New York whom she met in Chicago while he was attending Chicago Medical School. They soon settled in Waterville where Stanley established his medical practice. Marcia became a housewife raising their two children Peter and Linda with great love, care, and devotion.

Besides being an avid and well-respected bridge player winning or placing in the top tiers of many bridge tournaments and bridge games in Waterville throughout many many years, Marcia also volunteered with several local service organizations including the Thayer Hospital Auxiliary, and the Waterville Women's Club where Marcia for several years was a major part of the Education Committee, working with the Waterville Public Library and the public school libraries. She was also a former active member of the women of Beth Israel Congregation in Waterville.

Marcia was a very kind and generous person with a great love for the arts as well as antiques, along with great love and appreciation for nature and animals and especially her canine companions throughout her life. Although spending many of her young adult years in the major cities of Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago, and enjoying looking back at those wonderful sophisticated and exciting city-life days of the 30s and 40s, Marcia truly loved raising her children and living in Waterville in the midst of many of her Shiro and Levine family and many close friends. Also, thanks to her mother Celia's wonderful cooking and the wonderful restaurants Marcia enjoyed, including the Shiro family-owned Jefferson Hotel, and her own good cooking, Marcia truly enjoyed good food, especially when surrounded by family.

Marcia was a woman of grace and a very strong person both in body and spirit with a wonderful sense of humor, all of which enabled her to endure through her beloved daughter and best friend and bridge partner Linda's very tragic and lengthy two-year battle with acute leukemia from which Linda (Lohman) succumbed on February 21, 2006.

Marcia is survived by her beloved son Peter Beckerman and his wife Joan of Sidney; her son-in-law Mark Lohman and grandson Drew Lohman; her granddaughter Joy Beckerman-Maher and husband Douglas, and Marcia's great-grandsons Spiral and Phoenix of Edmonds, Washington; her brother Burton Shiro and sister-in-law Phyllis of Waterville; her brother Oren Shiro of Lake Worth, Florida; her brother Ted Shiro of Naples, Florida; and her sister Gladys Adelson and husband Sid of Portland, Maine; as well as their families, and her many wonderful nieces and nephews and cousins, and their families. Marcia was predeceased by her parents, her sister Anna, and her daughter Linda.

Marcia Beckerman also leaves behind her many close and supportive friends and neighbors, including Fran Roy and Marcia's bridge group friends and members of the Waterville and Fairfield duplicate bridge tournaments at which she formerly teamed up with her daughter Linda for many many enjoyable and successful weekly afternoons.

Marcia and her son Peter and daughter-in-law Joan wish to thank Linda Chamberlain, Marcia's wonderful and dedicated caregiver and personal care assistant, for the wonderful care and assistance given to Marcia with the skill and patience of both a caregiver and friend.

The family also wishes to thank Marcia's primary care physician Dr. Catherine Kimball and her staff for their great medical care and compassion throughout Marcia's aging process.

A graveside memorial service for friends and family at the Springer Cemetery on the West River Road in Sidney will be announced.

As a tribute to Marcia's love of animals and children, donations may be made in Marcia's memory to the Waterville Area Humane Society, 100 Webb Road., Waterville, ME 04901, or The Alford Youth Center, 126 North St., Waterville, ME 04901.