

Memorial: Elinor C. Muller (1918–2005)

¶1 Miss Elinor C. (Nora) Muller passed away peacefully on April 30, 2005, at Martha's Vineyard Hospital. She had been an independent, year-round resident of her beloved East Chop home since 1982. Nora had recently moved to Windemere in January 2005 because of deteriorating health. She was born on January 16, 1918, and was eighty-seven years old.

¶2 Nora was the daughter of Edward N. and Flora Muller, who first came to Martha's Vineyard as summer visitors in 1927. Nora grew up on Staten Island and graduated from Staten Island Academy and Bradford Junior College. During World War II, Nora served as an American Red Cross hospital-trained worker stationed at Miller Field on Staten Island where she greeted and assisted troops returning from battle.

¶3 Nora worked for the law department of Union Carbide in New York City for more than thirty years, beginning in 1951 as a library assistant, then serving as assistant librarian from 1954 until 1962 when she became head librarian, a position she held until her retirement in 1981. She was recognized with numerous professional awards during her career. Nora was an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries.

¶4 Upon her retirement to the Vineyard, Nora joined the Garden Club and was chairman of the Volunteers at Martha's Vineyard Hospital. She was a devoted and dedicated supporter of Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, where she volunteered her time regularly. Nora was also a member of the East Chop Beach Club.

¶5 Nora particularly appreciated good food, good stories, good bourbon, and good friends. She traveled extensively during her retirement, from Greece to the Caribbean to Portugal to Arizona. She played bridge regularly, loved to dine out at fine restaurants, enjoyed a great party, and adored attending the ballet. Nora will be remembered for her quick wit, her sharp tongue, her intelligence, her honesty, and her lively sense of humor, all of which stayed with her until the end. She was a loyal and supportive friend to those who were lucky enough to know her well.

¶6 She is survived by two great-nieces, Alexandra Arboleda of Phoenix, Arizona, and Sarah Dick of Tucson, Arizona, and a great-nephew, Edward N. Muller of Springfield, Oregon. Her brother, Nicholas Muller, predeceased her. Nora leaves behind numerous friends of all ages who appreciated her strong character and comedic timing.—*Terry Appenzellar*

