

Helen Kimbark Boocock

May 17, 2022

Helen Boocock died early Tuesday, surrounded by her family. From her first visit to Roger's family and throughout her life, Helen always wanted to help. She was enormously liked and respected by the trustees of each of the schools where Roger was head, and she made close friends in each new place she moved.

Helen was born on May 29, 1934 in Evanston, Illinois and grew up there, spending summers on the Cape, where she loved to sail and swim and walk the beaches. She graduated from Middlebury College with a degree in French and lived for a year in Paris, becoming so fluent that later in life she was mistaken for a native speaker. A sabbatical trip to Europe with Roger in 1981 and a trip to Paris with Roger and her daughter Dana and Dana's husband James in 2011 were among Helen's favorite memories.

She loved book clubs, finding friends in them in every city and on the Cape, and she loved tennis groups. In New York she drove from Riverdale to Manhattan to play in a bubble under the 59th Street bridge. As she raised her family in Kansas City, she was famous for baking cookies for the school newspaper staff that met in her basement and for the parties she gave for the trustees, faculty and parents of Pembroke Country Day School, where Roger was the head. Pembroke Hill recognized her central role in its community when it named the Helen and Roger Boocock Middle School in 2004.

She joined the Junior League in Rochester, NY and Kansas City, MO, the Alliance Francaise of Kansas City, the Shakespeare Club in Riverdale, NY, the Cosmopolitan Club in Manhattan and the Colonial Dames. She was a board member of the Riverdale Neighborhood House. With Roger she was a member of the Kansas City Country Club and the Riverdale Yacht Club. On the Cape she was a longtime member of the Barnstable Yacht Club and The Beach Club in Centerville, of which her grandfather was a founder. She was a member of St. Mary's Church and the Osterville Garden Club.

Helen was preceded in death by her sister Cary Kimbark Revere and her brother-in-law Paul Revere, Jr. She is survived by Roger, her husband of 62 years, and her daughters and sons-in-law Dana and James Crowell, Sarah and Mark Beyreis and Melissa and John Soderberg, and grandchildren Angus and Philip Soderberg and William and Eleanor Beyreis, and by nine nieces and nephews, Avery Revere, Paul Revere III; Douglas, Kim and Philip Hamilton; Tad, Andrew, Matthew and Philip Coburn.

A memorial service will be held Friday June 10 on 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, 3055 Main St, Barnstable, MA 02630. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to St. Mary's.

