Lorna Whittelsey Hibberd

LORNA WHITTELSEY HIBBERD died peacefully in her home Tuesday, June 9, 2009 She was predeceased by her husband of 64 years Frederick Hyde Hibberd and her grandson Frederick Hyde Hibberd III. The daughter of the late H. Newton Whittelsey and the late Myrtle Souther Whittelsey, she grew up in Greenwich, graduating from Rosemary Hall. She went on to attend Smith College, however the negative economic impact of the Great Depression on her family prevented her from completing her studies. A competitive sailor since the age of 6, she won the Women's National Sailing Championship a record five times. Lorna teamed up with her husband Fred to successfully race cruising boats on Long Island Sound for many years out of the American Yacht Club. She spent a number of years sharing her skills and seamanship with junior program sailors and adults new to the sport at AYC. She closed out her illustrious sailing career sailing Ideal 18's and windsurfing into her 80s. Lorna began skiing in the 30s in the era of rope tows and ski trains. Her lifelong enthusiastic, pursuit of the sport allowed her to gracefully master the most difficult terrain whether in Vermont or on her annual pilgrimages to Aspen, Colorado with family and friends. As a founding member of the Adelpate Ski Club, she was responsible for generations of lower Westchester County children taking to the slopes in a fun, family centered environment at a reasonable cost. A community activist long before the phrase became popular, Lorna believed in giving back to her adopted community of Rye. She was active in fundraising and volunteer work for United Hospital for many years, selling antiques for the 15th Twig, providing staff support in radiology and serving on the Hospital's Board of Directors. The aesthetics of Rye were always of interest to Lorna whether through her membership of the Rye Garden Club or her service on the Architectural Board of Review. She is survived by her two sisters, Myrtle Campbell of Seattle Wash. and Cecelia (Tiny) Hunter of Lake Forest, III.; one sister-in-law, Harriet Whittelsey of Tuscon, Ariz.; three children, a son, Frederick H. Hibberd Jr. and spouse, Christine of Jackson, Wyo.; a daughter, Elisabeth Charas of Ventura, Calif.; and a son, David W. Hibberd and spouse, Kathy of West Barnstable, Mass.; seven grandchildren, Sage Hibberd, Julie Hibberd Leeder, A.J. Buchter, Charles Hibberd, Mama Hibberd, Katherine Hibberd, Samuel Hibberd; and three great-grandchildren. The family wishes to extend our thanks and gratitude to our two fantastic caregivers Nana Frimpomaa and Ciselyne Clarke who provided years of comfort and loving care to Lorna. Without their compassionate care and support, we would not have been able to accommodate her wishes to live out her final years in her home on the Sound. A celebration of her life will be held at 11:30 a.m., Friday June 12, 2009, at the American Yacht Club on Milton Point in Rye, N.Y. Burial arrangements will be private. Donations in lieu of flowers, may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Westchester, 95 South Broadway, 4th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601 or the Alzheimer's Assoc., 2900 Westchester Ave. Ste. 306, Purchase, NY 10577-2552.

Published in GreenwichTime from June 11 to June 12, 2009

