



BEATRICE GWIN BACON

Beatrice Gwin Bacon, 90, of Olathe, Kansas, passed away June 20, 2013. She was born March 25, 1923, to Dr. Howell and Rose Gwin. Bea grew up in Tulsa, where she was graduated from Tulsa High School, following which she attended secretarial business school. During the war, she worked as a civilian for the Army in California and in Washington DC. In 1946, she went to Germany, and worked in the Nuremburg Palace of Justice as the secretary for presiding Judge Hu C. Anderson in the War Crimes Trial of the Krupps, the German industrialist family that used slave labor in brutal conditions to provide the Nazis with tanks, munitions, and armaments. While there, she met and married Robert C. 'Bob' Bacon, who was serving in Germany as part of the occupation forces. They lived in Germany for a couple of years, including in Berlin during the Airlift. Returning to Kansas City, Bob and Bea raised their three children. Bea worked as a secretary for Bob in his avionics manufacturer's representative business. She worked in various roles helping Bob in his campaigns for public office, including acting as his campaign manager. She and Bob were both private pilots. Her passion the past 30 years was advocacy for the aged. She first helped to found the Kansas Coalition on Aging, and later, the National Silver Haired Congress, which meets annually in Washington DC to promote legislation to benefit the elderly. Bea spent considerable time working with volunteers, administrators and legislators in Topeka and Johnson County to develop programs, facilities, and laws to assist the aged. Bea was a kind and caring person, a wonderful daughter, mother, and grandmother, and a patriot who loved America. She was predeceased by her husband Bob, her parents, her brother Walter and sister Marge, and her son-in-law Rudy Fick. She leaves her children Chris (Pam) Bacon of Overland Park, Kansas, Julie Fick of Port St. Lucie, Florida, and Patti (Tim) Meihls of Schaumburg, Illinois; her grandchildren Britton and Brett Meihls; her sister-in-law Betty Hodges, and 8 nieces and nephews. In great appreciation, Bea's family wishes to thank all of the wonderful, caring staff at Hoeger House & the Kansas City Hospice House. A service celebrating Bea's life will be Saturday, June 29 at 1:00pm at Colonial Presbyterian Church at 12501 W. 137th Street, Overland Park, KS. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made in the name of Bea Bacon to Kansas City Hospice House, 9221 Ward Parkway, Ste. 100, Kansas City, MO 64114. Cremation Society of Kansas & Missouri, www.kccremation.com

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