



Charlotte J. Dittmer

April 24, 1925 - August 13, 2017

West Springfield – Charlotte J. Dittmer (nee Schumann) was born in Heimbürg, Germany in 1925. She grew up in nearby Wernigerode in the picturesque Harz Mountains. In 1950 she married Ernest F. Dittmer. They had three children. The family immigrated to the United States in 1961 and settled first in Williamstown, Massachusetts and then in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

She worked as a bookkeeper for the Longmeadow Community Market. She was an avid bird watcher, hiker and skier and loved to knit, sew and garden. She was a 50-year member of the Springfield Turnverein where she sang in the Glee Club. Music was very important to her; in particular she loved opera. She played alto recorder in school and studied piano as well. She performed in school recitals and accompanied her vocalist schoolmates. She traveled weekly to see her uncle Paul who played trumpet in the city orchestra. They played duets together. She continued to play piano until arthritis prevented it just a few years ago.

Charlotte enjoyed living at Monastery Heights where she felt loved and had many friends. She was predeceased by Ernest, her husband of 65 years, who passed away a year ago; her parents, Rudolf and Ida (nee Goebel) Schumann and her older brother, Rudolf Schumann.

She is survived by her three children, Doris Dittmer, Joerg Dittmer and his wife, and Joan Dittmer and her partner John; her sister Ilse Kossel; three grandchildren, Alexandra, Bjorn and his wife Cathy, and Steven; and two great-grandsons, Sebastian and Casey. Her family meant everything to her and she dedicated her life to their well-being.

Charlotte studied English in school and there discovered Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's famous first poem Evangeline. She loved this work, her favorite, for its beauty and poignant sadness. "All was ended now, the hope, and the fear and the sorrow. All the aching of heart, the restless, unsatisfied longing, All the dull, deep pain, and constant anguish of patience!"

New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA has been entrusted with the arrangements. Visit www.nefcc.net