HALLER, RUTH

PJB 12-5-03

RUTH G. HALLER, 87, of Hundred Acre Pond, West Kingston, a third-grade teacher at Hamilton Elementary School, North Kingstown, for many years before retiring in 1980, died Tuesday at home.



She was the wife of the late William Haller Jr. Born in New York City, a daughter of the late Benjamin and Dora (Cohen) Grossman, she had been a resident of South Kingstown for almost 50 years.

An avid swimmer, in 1997, Mrs. Haller, at the age of 80, became the oldest swimmer in the annual Save the Bay 1.7-mile swim of Narragansett Bay. She completed the swim again in 1998 and 1999.

Mrs. Haller was a 1937 graduate of Smith College, and received a master's degree from the University of Rhode Island in 1966.

She was active with the National Education Association, and was a volunteer at the Health Center of South County and at West Kingston Elementary School through Seniors Helping Others.

She enjoyed traveling.

She leaves two sons, Benjamin K. Haller of Los Angeles and David A. Haller of Kingston; and two grandsons and five great-grandchildren. She was the sister of the late Alexander Grossman and David R. Grossman.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.