5-6-15

PANSY, GERTRUDE



PANSEY, GERTRUDE F.
retired school teacher and reading specialist, died in Skillman NJ, on May 6, 2015. She was 93. She was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the daughter of Harry Fruit and Martha Sigal Fruit. She attended public school in Rhode Island and graduated from Rhode Island Teachers College, now Rhode Island College in 1943. She taught first grade in the Rhode Island public schools for most of her early career, except for one year in Detroit, teaching in an inner city school. She earned a Masters Degree in special education in 1969 from RIC, and became a reading specialist in the lower school of the Wheeler School in Providence Rhode Island until she retired in 1988.

She was active in the Rhode Island League of Women Voters, serving as president of the Pawtucket League and member of the state board. She also volunteered at the International House in Providence where she gave individual instruction in English to foreign graduate students at Brown University.

She married Alvin W. Pansey in 1947, and lived in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, with a summer house in East Brewster, Massachusetts. In 2006 they moved to Stonebridge, in Skillman, New Jersey. She was mother of the late Harris M. Pansey and is survived by her sister, Isabelle Dickens of Warwick, Rhode Island, her daughters, Susanne Ryder of California, Martha Elliott Pratt of Skillman, New Jersey, son-in-law Michael J. Pratt of Skillman, New Jersey, and one granddaughter, Emily Pratt of Philadelphia.