

TAMPA, FL--Mildred Phelan Benken, 85, peacefully left us to be in a better place on June 12, 2012. She was born on March 14, 1927 in Portland, IN, the daughter of Robert and Inez Phelan.

Mildred graduated from Portland High School in 1945 and from the Indianapolis General Hospital School of Nursing in 1948.

Mrs. Benken worked as a Registered Nurse in Sarasota, FL and Indianapolis, IN. She married Dr. Lawrence D. Benken in 1957.

She was a member of the Alpha Chapter of Psi Iota Xi and the Ball Memorial Hospital Medical Auxiliary. She also enjoyed playing tennis and ballroom dancing.

Survivors include her daughters, Vicki Smith, Shelley Benken; her son, Rob Benken (wife-Liliana); grandchildren, Quinten Smith, Kristen Smith, Beau Benken, Genea Benken, Payton Benken; step-grandchildren, Audrey Scott, Gracie Wiley, Riley Buchanan.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Mae Phelan; and her son, Doug Benken.

Memorial services will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 26, 2012 in The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel. Her cremains will be placed in the Phelan Family Plot at Green Park Cemetery in Portland at a later date. Friends may call from 4-6 p.m. Tuesday at The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel.



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Contributed by Jane

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Mildred Benken

March 14, 1927-June 12, 2012

Mildred Phelan Benken, 85, Tampa, Fla., died June 12 in Florida. Born in Portland to Robert and Inez Phelan, she graduated from Portland High School in 1945 and from Indianapolis General Hospital School of Nursing in 1948. She was married to Dr. Lawrence D. Benken in 1957. She had worked as a registered nurse in Sarasota, Fla., and Indianapolis and was a member of the Alpha Chapter of Psi Iota Xi and Ball Memorial Hospital Medical Auxiliary. Surviving besides her husband are two daughters, Vicki Smith and Shelley Benken; a son, Rob Benken (wife: Liliana); five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be Tuesday at 6 p.m. at The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel. Cremains will be placed in the Phelan family plot at Green Park Cemetery in Portland at a later date. Visitation is Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to www.meeksmortuary.com.

Contributed by Jane Edson