

Aurore Lafond Chace

THREE CHILDREN. She was number 4 in a family of 9 children. She was born July 27th, 1921 and named Aurore, which means "coming of the dawn." She lived with her parents, grandparents, and a great grandmother who lived to be 102.

Unfortunately, her father died at the age of 36, leaving his wife, pregnant with the 9th child. Also her sister Theresa, the youngest child at the time, died a month after her father of tetanus.

Aurore knew by the time she was 5 that she wanted to be a nurse. She graduated from Dartmouth High School in 1939. In 1942, she graduated from Truesdale School of Nursing as an RN and took her boards in Boston, making it official.

Then she worked in Truesdale Hospital in Obstetrics. She married Robert Chace in California on March 13th, 1945, but stayed on at the hospital until 1946 because Bob was still going to sea as a captain in the Merchant Marines. He missed the birth of the first baby but was home for good for the second one. Then he started Chace Grain Co. around 1950 and three years later became a father again.

Then Aurore was a stay at home mom until the youngest child turned 13 and she did private duty nursing until she was 69.

Aurore was very involved in the girl scouts when her children were growing up. Both she and Bob were Mariner Leaders with Louise Strongman until Miss Strongman gave it up.

Aurore dedicated many hours to working on the Mariner Fairs - one at Christmas and one in the summer. She also taught Sunday school at the First Unitarian Church for 12 years and still attends the church.

When Bob and Aurore retired, they spent a lot of time sailing on their boat, which they had always done, but now with no interruptions. Sadly, Bob passed away at 87, but Aurore is about to be 96 this month and is still quite independent.