



Helen Aurelia Kuffert, 90 years young, of Searsport, Maine, passed away peacefully at home on February 8th 2023 of unknown causes.

Helen was born on October 11th 1932 in Detroit, Michigan to parents of Swedish and French descent, John J LaDuke and Beatrice M Peterson. She was born within a block of her future husband James E Kuffert who had been born 2 years earlier.

She graduated from East Commerce high school in 1951 with a degree in secretarial skills which proved to be an excellent foundation for many, many years as a legal secretary

In 1948, she spied James in the church they both were attending with their families and coerced him into joining the church choir of which she was already a part of not knowing at the time that James was a friend of her older brother Robert and Jim's older sister Audrey was a friend of her older sister Laura.

From that point on it was a whirlwind courtship by car starting from Michigan with travels to Seattle, Washington, Oregon, Southern California back to Michigan and finally to a marriage in Biloxi, Mississippi on July 11th 1953 while Jim was in the Air Force.

69+ years of marriage in 5, (twice in California) states working as a legal secretary as her husband Jimmy pursued a career in Electronic engineering, resulted in a fabulous family of 4 children, 13 grandchildren and 6 greatgrandchildren all living. Amy with her husband Joel Rothfeld, Edward with his wife Barbara Anderson, Julie with her husband John Kinnaman and Matthew with his wife Carolyn Dyer and 13 grand children, Phoebe, Dylan and Amara Rothfeld, Jon Kuffert, Chris Kuffert and his spouse Sarah, Jay, Ian and Jami Kinnaman, Dia (Kinnaman) Ham and her spouse Andy, Kelsey (Kinnaman) Morgan and her spouse Doug. 6 greatgrandchildren, Avery and Ava children of Dia & Andy and Kaley, Austin, McKenna and Sydney children of Kelsey and Doug.

Helen is predeceased by her parents, John and Beatrice, an older brother John Clifton, an older sister Laura May and a younger sister Nila Jo-An. Her older brother Robert James is still living in Birmingham, Michigan

She was a fine singer, excellent story teller of old times especially in Detroit, an avid gardener, dabbled in writing childrens stories, ancestry tracing, service organization participation, photo organizing and loved extensive traveling with her husband by car. They covered all 48 lower states & traversed cross country over 35 times many of which include their children and dogs, several times hauling a 30 foot trailer.

Upon the death of her husband James, their ashes and that of their last two dogs, Shadow & Bernie who always travelled with them, will be deposited on a beach she loved in southern California in a simple ceremony.