

Louise Hunter

Louise Hunter, 86, a retired second-grade teacher, died on September 10, 2012, at the Mayflower Community Health Care Center in Grinnell, Iowa, of complications of Alzheimer's disease.

Louise was born in Pennsylvania in 1926 and lived as a child in Dallas, Texas. She met Ralph Hunter in the summer of 1948, while he conducted the Starlight Operetta in an outside performance of the musical *Oklahoma*. Louise, who had just graduated from Texas State College for Women as music major, was a chorus girl in the opera.



After marrying, Louise moved to New York City. She began her career as an elementary school teacher a few years later. She taught second grade for more than 40 years at the Elizabeth Morrow School in Englewood, N.J.

Louise and Ralph moved to the Mayflower Community in 1998, after living in Cresskill, N.J. for 43 years.

Louise loved music, books, and travel. In retirement, she and her husband cruised on the Queen Mary to England, and traveled repeatedly to Italy, especially loving their time in Venice. Among the highlights of her travels in her later years were river cruises down the Rhine in Europe, the Nile in Egypt, and the Yangtze in China. Her last travel adventure was a round-the-world tour that took her from Easter Island to New Guinea, Cambodia, Bhutan, and Ethiopia, Morocco, and back home.

Louise was a strong, bright, dignified, independent woman, a great mother to her two sons, a loyal and loving wife, and a dedicated and inspiring teacher to hundreds of young students over the years.

Louise's husband Ralph died in 2002. Louise is survived by two sons, Richard of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, and Christopher of Grinnell; four grandchildren; a great grandson; and a sister, Dorothy Vaughn, of Dallas, Texas.

GH-R 9-13-2012