



June C. Gridley

August 28, 1926 - February 6, 2021

STANDISH-- June C. Gridley passed away peacefully from natural causes on February 6, 2021 at The Mooring in Scarborough, Maine.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1926, she attended local schools until enrolling in the Andrews School for Girls in Willoughby, Ohio and Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

June was a flight attendant in the earliest days of air travel when she met her future husband, Theodore (Ted) G. Gridley. After a brief stay in Massena, New York, they settled in Portland, Maine, to raise their family of four: Guinevere, Elaine, Norman and Lance (James).

A devoted and selfless wife and mother, June was passionate about the value of education, community service and working to one's capacity. June and Ted worked together to raise their children, the youngest of whom became the first student to attend and graduate from local public high school long before laws mandated mainstreaming of disabled persons.

Once the four children were in their late teens, June earned her Master's Degree in Education which led to a rewarding career as a second-grade teacher in the Falmouth School System, where she taught for over twenty years. She invested her heart and her energy in each of her students, inspiring them to reach their full potential.

June moved to the family farm in Sebago Lake upon her father's death in 1978. Her husband, Ted subsequently passed after a short illness in 1983. Upon her retirement, June pursued her lifelong ambition of travel, visiting South America, Europe and Russia. It was her delight to visit historical and cultural sites and to take notes on all that she saw. She was a prolific reader and note-taker, striving to learn something new every day. She loved attending plays, local musical productions, listening to opera (with explanatory book in hand), listening to radio, following the TV news and watching baseball.

June took a personal interest in all the people she met (family, friends, students, co-workers, church members, and neighbors) keeping detailed notes on their names, families, birthdays and interests. She spent hours reading, clipping and mailing thousands of articles, which she inserted in all manner of cards. Christmas cards took her weeks to write, as each contained a personalized message.

June was physically active long into her retirement, volunteering at a local elementary

school and library, then working as a bagger at a grocery store until it was no longer safe for her to drive. Fiercely independent, June's favorite phrase came from the "Peanuts" cartoon strip, where Lucy stated: "I can do it myself!" Guinevere's providing meals, transportation and daily company, allowed June to fulfil her desire to live at the family farm until the final few weeks of her life.

In addition to her children, June leaves behind six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

We want to provide a special thanks to the staff at The Mooring in Scarborough, Maine, who provided loving care to June during her final weeks.

June will rest in peace at the Cedar Brook Burial Ground, in Limington, Maine.

Arrangements are in the care of the Windham Chapel of Dolby Blais & Segee, 434 River Rd., Windham, ME 04062.

Comments



“ Hi Gridley family, this is Elaine Scott grand daughter of Walter and Julia Smith your next door neighbors on Stevens Avenue. I remember my Grandparents had such love for you all, especially Lance and of course June. I remember your Mom as a great lady. Elaine you visited us in Rochester too or we visited you when you were at Ithaca.

I am now living in Portland for several years now via working in NYC. Would love to connect with any of you. My Father is living with me now during Covid. My Father and I send our sympathy to you all. Such great memories of you all.

Elaine-

Elaine Scott - March 17 at 06:19 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Norman Gridley - February 22 at 07:00 PM



“ Norman, thank you for the family photos!

guinevere gridley - February 24 at 10:46 AM



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Norman Gridley - February 22 at 04:34 PM



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Norman Gridley - February 22 at 04:30 PM



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Norman Gridley - February 22 at 10:53 AM



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Norman Gridley - February 22 at 01:06 AM



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Norman Gridley - February 20 at 08:21 PM



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Norman Gridley - February 20 at 06:35 PM



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Norman Gridley - February 20 at 06:30 PM



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Greg Williams - February 20 at 10:10 AM



“ June LOVED children and her great grandchildren were VERY SPECIAL to her.
guinevere gridley - February 24 at 10:45 AM



“ Guin, Steve and I send our sincere condolences to you and your family during this time of sadness. I remember years of seeing June walking along 114 getting in her daily exercise all year round. She was always smiling when I'd see her working at the grocery store. Quite a woman. I know you have many memories to keep you company in the days ahead. The Titcombs

elaine titcomb - February 19 at 05:32 PM



“ Elaine, thanks so much for your kind comments. We know that she was indeed a presence on Route 114 for decades! Norman

Norman Gridley - February 20 at 06:32 PM



“ I was one of the lucky one's, "Mrs. Gridley" was my 2nd grade teacher '74-75. What a magical year...cursive writing, memorizing Paul Revere's Ride and she had multiple stands in the garbage can!!!! Most of all I felt noticed, valued and safe to learn at my pace and in my way. This wonderful experience was not, and is not the norm. Her life lessons have guided me to go on as a person, mother and advocate for learning disabilities. Thank you for sharing your mother with us!

Andrea Gove Martin

Andrea Gove Martin - February 18 at 04:12 PM



“ Dear Andrea,
Thank you for sharing your memories with us!! It has been a pleasure over these last two months. Sincerely, Guin

guinevere gridley - February 21 at 07:55 AM



“ I was blessed to have Mrs. Gridley as my 2nd grade teacher. When I came home from school at the end of 1st grade with Mrs. Gridley at the bottom of my report card, I thought I'd won the lottery! Everyone wanted to be in her class (my grandmother, Charlotte Cote, had taught with Mrs. Gridley at Plummer-Motz) so she let me know how lucky I was too. Mrs. Gridley was one of “those” teachers - one who truly inspired you to learn because it was a joyful experience. Her eyes just sparkled when she was excited about a lesson (which was all the time) and she had more energy than all of her second graders combined some days. For a small lady, she could jet around the classroom incredibly fast and packed a ton into our second grade days. She only stood in the trash can once the year I had her - and I'll always remember it! She left a huge impression on me and my life's trajectory...I'm grateful to have known her and been her student.

Cassandra (Cassie) Cote Grantham - February 17 at 11:56 PM



“ Dear Cassie,
Thank you for your condolences. June absolutely LOVED teaching. The children in her classroom brought her great joy. She delighted in their accomplishments and expectations that each one would truly be their best selves as adults. I am flattered by the responses from her former students. I am honored to have had her as a mother, and now to be witness to the fruits of her labor. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 18 at 01:14 PM



“ Love you June! You were a joy!

Janis Vooris - February 17 at 08:15 AM



“ Dear Janis,
Joy to be given and received.
Thank you, Guin

guinevere gridley - February 18 at 01:17 PM



“ Guin, Elaine, Lance & Norman ~ I am very sorry to hear of the passing of your mom. I have a lot of good memories growing up next to your family on Stevens Ave & Poland Street. Nice to have read your mom spent many years living on the farm, as I remember that being a special place for her. The obituary was a great tribute to her, she lead a very full life. May your fond memories of your mom bring a smile to your face daily.

Rest in peace, Mrs. Gridley ~

Mo Conley Keniston

Mo Conley Keniston - February 16 at 05:11 PM



“ Dear Mo,
Thank you for your condolences. I remember playing on the little hill between your house and the Jacobsen's house. But mainly I was glad that I only had 3 siblings! Elaine and I were responsible for doing laundry, and I was glad that we didn't have as much as your family. Funny how you remember small things from your childhood. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 05:34 PM



“ Hi Mo, it is very special to receive your comments, and to remember you and your family. Thank you so much.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:07 AM



“ Guin & Elaine & your brothers, I'm very sorry for your loss of your mother. It's been a long time since we have seen each other but I will always remember our younger years hanging out at your house on Stevens Ave. I remember Elaine had to practice her piano lessons before she could come out to play! Your mother always invited me in and stayed for dinner a few times. Since I moved to Sebago I would see her walking down 114 quite often. My thoughts and prayers to you. Jane Stanley MacDonald

Jane MacDonald - February 16 at 12:34 PM



“ Dear Jane,
Thank you for your condolences. I remember visiting your house too! It was one place we could go independently. And yes, Elaine still plays the piano. I knew you had moved to Sebago but thank you for sharing your remembrance of her walking on Rte.114. It was a daily ritual and kept her healthy for many years. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 05:30 PM



“ June was a wonderful source of light at SES. When my children saw her she inspired them to open their hearts. I remember when she worked at Hannaford she encouraged everyone to take their coupons and give them to the school which helped the school get needed supplies.

It always warmed my heart to see her walking along 114 or in Hannaford after our kids had graduated. Some people have the ability to give joy just by being and June was that and more. She will be missed by many but I am sure that for generations acts of kindness inspired by June will continue.

We hold her family in our hearts and thank her for all she did,

Vanessa, Jeffrey, Rowan, Giselle and Lucien

Vanessa Wallace - February 16 at 10:49 AM



“ Dear Vanessa,
Thank you for your condolences. Your statement regarding future generations expressing acts of kindness is very apt and accurate. June will always be remembered for the gift of kindness and the ability to instill that attribute in others. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:17 PM



“ Vanessa, thank you for such lovely comments.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:09 AM



“ June shared her love of life with me while I worked at Sebago Elementary and whenever our paths crossed in the community. God blessed me with her friendship.

Diane McLaughlin - February 16 at 10:11 AM



“ Dear Diane,
June greatly enjoyed volunteering at Sebago Elementary School. June's time spent with the students and staff was a source of great pleasure. It was a blessing for her also. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:19 PM



“ It saddens me to read this, but what a life she lived! She was an exceptional woman who touched so many lives. I have some of the magazine cutouts hanging on my wall at Sebago Elementary that June had given me over the years. After she stopped volunteering at school we would still exchange Christmas cards up until this past year. She was the best! I am the secretary at the school and one day she said to me, "did you ever see (some show that I can't remember and had never heard of!)" I told her no and she proceeded to tell me about it. Apparently in the show people had to be "buzzed in" to get into a building by "Ms. Blue" and that is what we do at SES so every day she would come to school she would say "Buzz me in Ms. Blue"! I had nothing but respect for her. To her family, I am terribly sorry for your loss! She was the best!!

Shelly Willey - February 16 at 09:40 AM



“ Dear Shelly,
Thank you for your comments about June's sense of humor. As her child it took me many years to fully recognize and appreciate it. You encapsulated it very well in your antidotal story. I'm glad you chose to story share. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:26 PM



“ Shelly, your comments are lovely, and it is so great to see that June was able to contribute to SES, even after she couldn't go there any more. Thank you so much.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:10 AM



“ June was volunteered at Sebago Elementary School for many years. We could always count on her to be there and to do whatever was needed. She was one of the sweetest and most kind people I have ever known. The staff and students alike always enjoyed being in her presence and seeing her smiling face. Each morning as I drove to school, I would pass her on her daily walk along Route 114 and it would bring a smile to my face. June exuded joy and heaven is lucky to have her kind soul.

Kirsten Goff - February 16 at 07:53 AM



“ Dear Kristen,
Thank you for your condolences. Yes, I am sure heaven is lucky to have her kind soul. All of us still here recognize the blessing we received by having here in our lives. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:28 PM



“ My first reaction was sadness, about the passing of June but then I found myself feeling warm with the fond memories of her. I spent many hours with her while I was the librarian at Sebago Elementary School. She would come in and volunteer all the time. She would share stories with me about different things that she did. She always made me laugh or give me something to reflect on. She was always at the school doing something for the staff or students.
Later she worked at the Hannafords in Standish and I would chat with her there. June was always on the move. You could always see her walking along Route 114 every day. I would stop by her house to chat and admire her flowers and get caught up on how she was doing.

She was a bright light with her radiant smile. She will be missed but her spirit lives on in the memories that she made.

Abrams Family

Evelyn Abrams - February 16 at 06:45 AM



“ Dear Evelyn,
Thank you for your condolences. All June would have wanted is "momentary sadness". She was a true believer of making every moment count and not dwelling on issues beyond her ability to resolve or control. Her spirit will live on in those that were touched by her contribution to their lives. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:37 PM



“ Evelyn, thank you so much for your comments. Her spirit certainly does live on in all of us. Comments such as yours remind us what a positive effect she had on all those she met and worked with.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:12 AM



“ Mrs. Gridley was my second grade teacher, in 1988-89. I'll never forget how she would stand in the tiny trash can if we could "catch" her in a mistake, or some point on which she may have been incorrect. I swear, she did it more often than not to make us keep her accountable, and to see us all laugh. I've spoken to several friends over the years who remember the exact same thing. What laughs she gave us, and what an important lesson to teach: that it's okay to be wrong, and to admit when you are so. Of all the teachers I ever had, Mrs. Gridley left the most indelible impression. Endearingly so. What an amazing woman, I'm grateful and blessed to read all these other tributes to her impact that she made in the lives of those she touched beyond the little classroom at Plummer-Motz.

Duncan - February 15 at 01:17 PM



“ Dear Duncan,
Thank you for your condolences. As child of June's, my siblings and I never witnessed her standing in a trash can as children. Instead, she would "empty" the trash can on our beds when we chose to live in cluttered rooms that had not been cleaned. Although this behavior was not endearing to us, we learned many of the same lessons that she shared with her students. Her gift of teaching relevant life lessons and the ability to live life to its' fullest will continue on for all of us who were blessed to know her. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:45 PM



“ You touched my heart! June was my grandmother and I have a framed photo of her standing I that trash can hanging in my hall, where I can see it often and also remember that it is okay to make mistakes. She inspired me to become a teacher!

Jessie Makela - February 16 at 04:17 PM



“ Duncan, we always knew about our mom's trash can story, and she even showed us a picture of it at one point. It is incredible to realize that such an unusual action could leave an indelible mark. Thank you so much for sharing.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:14 AM



“ June Gridley was a remarkable woman and I feel privileged to have known her. She led a rich and productive life, and she truly was a lifelong learner. Those of us in Delta Zeta considered June our sorority mom. She leaves behind a powerful legacy in her children, grandchildren, numerous friends, and former students. Thank you, Guin, Elaine, Norman, and Lance for sharing this marvelous woman with so many others.

Lynda Randall - February 15 at 01:15 PM



“ Dear Lynda,
It has always been a pleasure to "share" June. Both for the lessons it taught us as her children and that it allowed us to witness the joy it brought to her life. The people she knew were important to her. She was a fervent believer in "community" and constantly strove to participate, share, and give back to others. She was a delightful person and I am glad she could share that blessing with so many others. It made our small part of the world a better place. Love, Guin

guinevere gridley - February 16 at 12:57 PM



“ Lynda, thanks for sharing your comments. We learn more about her every day when we see comments such as yours, and it strengthens our resolve to live as she did.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:15 AM



“ June Gridley, just her name evokes a warm feeling of a strong, intelligent and caring woman. She was incredibly independent. Her thoughtfulness was felt throughout the years with many Christmas and birthday cards exchanges. She was a brilliant writer which it appears Guin has inherited. As a teacher, she inspired many. If one walked by her room and saw her standing in the wastebasket, you knew she had made a mistake and was showing her students her human side and great sense of humor. As for myself, I remember fondly her taking this then 20 something to NYC to see The Grand Kabuki Dancers at Lincoln Center. She was always learning and teaching. She'll be sorely missed. Our condolences are with her family. Lucretia and Bill Bagley

Lucretia Bagley - February 15 at 08:52 AM



“ Dear Lucretia,
Thank you for your cards and condolences. As like you, she had fond individual remembrances you and Bill. She frequently mentioned the two of you in discussions of teaching in Falmouth. You were influential in her life. Enjoy your memories! Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 10:27 AM



“ Lucretia, thank you, we certainly all felt her "independence" as well as her "always learning and teaching". This lasted throughout her life and left an impression on all of us.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:17 AM



“ Condolences to the Gridleys from Marc, Dana, Chris and Abby Warren. June was a gracious force of nature. We fondly remember your visits to Sebago Lake when we were kids. In recent years, it was a special treat to stop in on June when passing by the old farm. Any visit with June was a happy occasion! So glad she enjoyed a long, healthy, happy and productive life!

Chris Warren - February 14 at 03:48 PM



“ Dear Chris,
Thank you for the memory, for me! In the deep recesses of my mind i remember visits to your family camp on Sebago. The one that stands out the most is when Elaine and I "sailed" down to visit. We really did not know what we were doing, because on the way home were got stranded in the water, due to massive inexperience, and had to be towed to shore! I don't know if June ever shared this story. It is still quite lucid in my mind despite passage of 60 years! Thank you for your condolences. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 10:33 AM



“ I didn't personally know June, but did know and admire one of her daughters, Guin. After reading Mrs. Gridley's obituary, I can see her many amazing attributes were passed down to her daughter (and I assume the rest of her children); boundless energy, positive outlook, the love of children and education, and a joyful outlook. My prayers go out to the family of June. I hope your fond memories of her will help you get through this difficult time. Your mom will live on in the hearts of many.

Sharon - February 14 at 12:54 PM



“ Dear Sharon,
Thank you for your kind words. Kind people beget kind friends and acquaintances. She kept tabs on Lance for many years and was delighted to know that you were in his life. She never forgot that after she stopped driving and was unable to visit him weekly. She was deeply grateful for you loving care. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 10:39 AM



“ Dear Sharon,
Thank you for your card. Lance has a friend called Sharon also and I realized the above response probably meant nothing to you. So, getting your card was very touching.. I am so glad you had a chance to visit with June this summer. She mentioned to me how delighted she was that you came up to the house to visit her. I was blessed to have been with her when she passed.

guinevere gridley - February 17 at 03:34 PM



“ Our house was nextdoor to the Gridleys when we all lived across the street from Westbrook College. She kept a keen out for me when I was little playing in the yard. I love that Lance became the owner of my pedal fire truck. June was lovely keeping in touch with my family over the years, always sending a Christmas card. She was a very special lady.

My deepest sympanthies to the family.

Jill O'Brien Thiel and Jadine O'Brien

JILL O'BRIEN THIEL - February 14 at 12:35 PM



“ Dear Jill and Jadine,

While we were living in Portland, I remember how much June enjoyed visiting your family. As a young mother in a new city, family friends were very important. I still remember riding my bike to your family home on Pleasant Avenue. And thank you for the gift of the "pedal fire truck". I never knew where it came from. You put a smile on my face. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 10:42 AM



“ June was an inspiring second grade teacher to our two boys growing up in Falmouth and we exchanged Christmas cards for years. In fact I saved them all and display them every Christmas. She instilled in our sons the love of reading, curiosity and humor and was truly a gift to our community. Sue Isler

sue Isler - February 14 at 11:49 AM



“ Dear Sue,

Thank you for your condolences. June absolutely LOVED teaching. So much so, that myself and my sister Elaine, both taught for many years. She received great satisfaction from watching children learn and grow, Sending Christmas cards was her way of saying "thank you" for this opportunity. Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 10:48 AM



“ June was an inspiration! She was a fiercely independent lady with a matchless knowledge of the world. Mike and I enjoyed being neighbors and will miss her spirit and those decadent brownies!

Kathleen Delcourt - February 14 at 11:34 AM



“ Dear Kathleen,
Thank you for your condolences. I can give you the brownie recipe but cannot provide the illumination form her house lights as you "turn in" each evening. She was equally delighted to have you as her neighbors. As to the independence, I recall how difficult it was for her to accept Mike's offer to mow her lawn! Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 10:52 AM



“ That dark house is a reminder every night that June's spirit has moved on to her next adventure! I always send her love as I sit waiting for Sam to come back from his wandering.

Kathleen Delcourt - February 16 at 08:03 AM



“ Kathleen, thanks for commenting, and for reminding us of the "fiercely independent" aspect, which was certainly her MO up to the last breath!! Sorry the house is dark now, but we hope to put life into it again....

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:19 AM



“ I recognized her face as soon as I saw the obituary online. Mrs. Gridley was a most wonderful teacher. I tell my adult children about her every Christmas when we take out the ornaments I made in her second grade class in 1972. There's a special place in heaven for teachers like Mrs. Gridley - the sort of educator you still remember almost 40 years later. My condolences to her family.
-Mrs. Shannon E. Fouts, Cody, Wyoming



Shannon E. Fouts - February 14 at 10:35 AM



“ Dear Shannon,
Thank you for your condolences. Yes, June greatly loved teaching young children. June was a special person. Although my children never had her as a schoolteacher, they were blessed to have her as a grandparent. Educating children was a daily event in and out of the classroom! And yes, I still have some Christmas ornaments that my children made in school too! Guin

guinevere gridley - February 15 at 11:01 AM



“ Shannon, thank you so much for the comments. It is wonderful to know that June had an effect that so many remember decades later.

Norman Gridley - February 18 at 08:21 AM



“ Lance - I was sorry to see of your Mom's passing. Please extend my deepest sympathy to all of your family.

Ralph Bean - February 19 at 02:37 PM



“ My first memories of June were of passing her walks on my way driving to Jordans store. I always marveled at her determination and dedication to maintaining her health. Getting to know June more personally during the past 10 years was a joy. She was so kind and pleasant and the stories she shared with me are ones I will always remember. Gayle and I will miss her company at our home for dinner in the early summer along with Mike and Kathy. The conversations we engaged in on our deck were so relaxing, wonderful and enjoying beyond belief. We were so fortunate that we were able to call June our friend and how the way she touched our lives was so special. We love her and will truly miss her.
Gayle and Greg

Greg DiGiacchino - March 05 at 07:46 AM