

Arlene LaRue Williams Kettle

October 14, 1918 – April 11, 2011

Arlene LaRue Williams Kettle was born in Marathon, Iowa in 1918 to “wonderful parents” as she recently proclaimed. She was married briefly to Walter Kettle, a member of the US Army Air Corps, who was killed in WWII, and she never remarried. Instead, she spent her later years with her sister, Iloe, and they ran a successful secretarial service until they reached retirement age. Iloe passed away in 1986 and Arlene continued to live her life independently and quietly.



Arlene had a passion for animals and, throughout her long life, cared for many dogs and cats. She was actively involved in the Old Dominion Kennel Club for many years and donated significantly to animal rescues and other charitable organizations.

Remarkably, Arlene continued to live with relative independence (with a little help from her friends) until 2008, when she moved to Sunrise at Oakton, Virginia. There she made new friends among the other residents, staff, and the pets in residence, always carrying bits of dog biscuit in her jacket pocket on the chance she may encounter the resident dog. She enjoyed Movie Night and participated in day trips and art activities at Sunrise. As long as her body and the weather permitted her to do so, she continued to walk in the outdoors and very recently spent an afternoon pond-side enjoying the beautiful spring weather.

Arlene had a quirky sense of humor, even until the end of her life. She did not complain regardless of her circumstance and was always grateful for any show of kindness in her direction.

She lived quietly and honorably and will be sorely missed by her friends.

Service and interment were held Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 11:00 a.m., at King David National Memorial Park in Falls Church. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her memory to Stray Haven (www.StrayHavenVA.org) or any animal welfare or rescue organization.

