

Shirley E. Howell

Shirley Elizabeth (Darling) Howell, a longtime resident of Bridgton, passed peacefully at home on July 25, 2025, at 8:43 p.m. She was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., on July 17, 1930, to Florence Wilma (Huber) Darling and Robert Harry Darling.

She attended American University, where she met Clarence (Pete) Fletcher Howell in 1949. They were married on September 6, 1951, in Washington, DC. Eventually, the young family moved to Bridgton in 1961. In the early years, Shirley was instrumental in creating two manufacturing companies with our father. She served as an officer on both boards, the first was Howell Laboratories, Inc., and the second was Down East, Inc. Shirley wore the many hats necessary to keep a small business afloat while raising a busy family. Over the years, she found time to share her talents by volunteering at the Bridgton library, local theater groups, and the community center.



Shirley was predeceased by her husband, "Pete," in 1999. Two daughters and three sons survive her. In order, they are Mary-Alice D. Taylor of Scarborough; Peter M. Howell, residing in Lubec; Frank A. Howell, living in Sweden; Jerome D. Howell, who resides in South Paris; and her daughter, Elizabeth K. Howell, of Bridgton. Also surviving are four granddaughters and six great-grandchildren.

At her request, no funeral service is planned. Our family will gather for a private burial in the spring. Arrangements are under the care of Chandler Funeral Homes, 8 Elm Street, Bridgton. Online condolences may be shared with her family at www.chandlerfunerals.com