Obituary

13 Nov. 86

Reita Bean

9: Nov. 6, 1986

BOXBOROUGH — Reita (Greenlaw) Bean, 76, of 1113 Hill Road, died Thursday, Nov. 6, 1986, at Emerson Hospital.

She was born June 7, 1909, in Somerville, the daughter of the late George and Mabel (Murray) Greenlaw.

She had been married to the late Warren Bean.

She spent her early life in Somerville and Norwich, Conn.

She was a graduate of Norwich Free Academy and then attended a commercial art school. She then trained to become a professional pianist.

She traveled many places in her lifetime, including a trip to Mexico by car in 1936 when the Pan American Highway opened. In 1949 she drove to Alaska for nine months with her family.

She lived in Boxborough since 1953 and began writing children's stories and had several stories published.

She became a children's librarian at the Reuben Hoar Library in Littleton in 1961 and worked as the head librarian until retiring two years ago. She also served as head librarian at the Boxborough public library (the Albert J. Sargent Memorial Library).

She taught art at the Blanchard Memorial School in Boxborough and also tutored Spanish-speaking children.

She was a charter member of the Boxborough Historical Society, a member of the Friends of the Reuben Hoar Library and an active member of the First Church Unitarian of Littleton.

She is survived by two sons, Richard W. Bean of Evanston, Ill., and Stephen E. Bean of San Diego, Calif.; a brother, Harold Greenlaw of Tucson, Ariz.; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Monday at 2 p.m. at the First Church Unitarian, Littleton, with Rev. Robert Hadley officiating.

A memorial fund has been established in her memory: The Reita Bean Memorial Book Fund, c/o Littleton or Boxborough libraries.