

MATHEWS: Ruth L., 95, of 40 Pine St., Pittsfield, Mass., died Monday, Nov. 8, 2004, at Berkshire Medical Center. Born in St. Johnsbury, Vt., Oct. 25, 1909, the daughter of William B. and Maude E. Simpson Mathews, she was a 1927 graduate of St. Johnsbury Academy. She then was employed at the James A. Impey Insurance Agency of St. Johnsbury. In 1929 she moved to Wellesley, Mass., and was employed for 11 years as bookkeeper at the Hathaway House Bookshop, suppliers of books and supplies for Wellesley College. While living in Wellesley, she was also employed at Lehrer and Madden Insurance Inc., Babson Institute, Lee Chevrolet Co., of Wellesley, Wentworth-Jennings Motor Co., Harlow Irmie Corp., Advance Machine Tools of Newton & Pierson Industries, and S.M. Spenser Manufacturing Co. of Boston. In August 1944, she enlisted in the United States Navy Reserve and served on active duty as a hospital corpsman during World War II, at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Chelsea, Mass., and during the Korean War at the U.S. General Hospital in Newport, R.I., retiring from the U.S.N.R. in 1971. She was a life member of the "Waves National," Mass. Waves Unit 17, "Old Ironside," and a life member of the American Legion Post 68 of Pittsfield. Her active interests were in the Fraternal Order of the Rebekahs, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, serving in the offices of several Rebekah branches. Central Past Noble Grand Assn. 11, Lady Deputies Assn., and Patriarch Militant Branch. Her fraternal memberships were in Olive Branch Rebekah Lodge 4 of St. Johnsbury, Vt., the Alfred S. Pinkerton Rebekah Lodge 205 of Wellesley, Mass., Summer P. Lawrence Rebekah Lodge 177 of Newton, Mass., and Lucy Webb Hayes Rebekah Lodge 1260 of Springfield, Mass. She had served as president of the Rebekah Assembly of Mass., from 1969-70, president of the Department

Assoc. of the Ladies Auxiliary Patriarch Militant of Massachusetts and Rhode Island from 1977-78. After residing in Wellesley for 45 years, she came to Pittsfield to live with her brother. Miss Mathews was predeceased by her brother, Kenneth, who passed away March 16, 2003. A cousin, Howard McKinstry, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., survives her. Funeral services for Miss Ruth L. Mathews will be Friday, Nov. 12, at 2 p.m., at the Wellington Funeral Home with the Rev. Dr. Roger Davis, pastor of the First United Methodist Church, officiating. Calling hours will be from 1-2 p.m. the day of the service with a Rebekah's service at 1:30 p.m. Burial will be Saturday, Nov. 13, at 11 a.m., in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in St. Johnsbury, Vt. Donations in her memory may be made to the Arthritis Foundation, the American Diabetes Association, or the Dana Farber Cancer Fund, care of the funeral home, 220 East St., Pittsfield, MA 01201.