

From: LCOM Office of the Dean <COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 11:42 AM

Subject: On Behalf of Dean Page ~ Sad News About Helen Larner

Dear Larner Community,

Four years ago this September, our College was named in honor of Robert Larner, M.D., a proud and generous member of the College's Class of 1942. Dr. Larner's partner in life and in philanthropy for more than 40 years was Helen Moray Larner. It is with great sadness that I must report that Helen passed away on Monday, November 2, at her home in Woodland Hills, California. She was 94.

Like her late husband, who hailed from Burlington's Old North End, Helen spent her formative years on the East Coast -- in her case, Brooklyn, N.Y. -- and headed west to California after World War II. She and Dr. Larner met there later, married, and founded and ran a property management firm that thrived. That success, and years of prudent real estate investment, built a financial base that allowed them to pursue their passion -- the support of medical students and the fostering of medical education at Dr. Larner's alma mater, the place that he credited with changing his life. Over the years, the Larners helped over 2,000 students through the Larner Loan Fund. They also underwrote the building of the UVM Clinical simulation Laboratory, the renovation of our teaching spaces to accommodate active learning methods, and the creation of nation's first endowed professorship in medical education. Of course their landmark gift that prompted our naming the College in Dr. Larner's memory in 2016 will continue to support our medical education programs in perpetuity.

Helen Larner was an enthusiastic partner in all these endeavors, and cared deeply about our mission to educate the next generation of physicians. Every time I walk into the College through our main doors and head down the Hoehl Gallery staircase, I see to my left over the grand piano the portrait of Robert and Helen Larner that hangs there. The Larners remain a part of this place, and their generosity will continue to benefit this institution and its students, faculty, and staff for decades to come. I know I speak for our entire community as I offer the Larner family our heartfelt condolences on their loss.

Sincerely,
Rick

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