



## Ellen Purvis Coulter

December 22, 2004

Ellen Purvis Coulter of Butler, died Wednesday evening at her home. She was 87 years of age.

She was born in Butler on July 18, 1917, the daughter of Dr. Joseph D. Purvis and Clara S. Purvis. Upon completing her studies at Butler High School, she attended Wellesley College. She graduated with honors in 1938 and was invited to join the Phi Beta Kappa Society. She went on to earn a doctorate degree in biochemistry, a field almost devoid of women in those days, from the University of Pittsburgh. Upon earning her degree, she was invited to work at Pitt as a research scientist in the field of nutrition. During this time, she had the opportunity to work with an elite group of scientists. Following the death of her husband, Corwyn M. Coulter in 1976, she returned to the work force and was employed in Boyers, PA where she worked for the Office of Personnel Management. She enjoyed her work and made many new friends during this period of her life. She was a life long member of Covenant United Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are her three children, Barbara E. Coulter of Austin, TX, Jean E. Coulter and James P. Coulter and his wife, Susan L. Coulter, all of Butler. Also surviving are six grandchildren, Benjamin C. Valvano, Daniel J. Valvano and Elizabeth Valvano, all of Austin, TX, James L. and Joseph C. Coulter of Butler and Alicia S. Coulter of Butler. Alicia, also known as "Allie" was a source of great joy and support to her in her later years. Her brother, Dr. Joseph D. Purvis, Jr. preceded her in death.

Friends will be received at the Young Funeral Home, Ltd. on Sunday, December 26, 2004 from 3:30 PM until the time of the service at 4:30 PM with her pastor, Rev. James Swanson officiating.

Burial in North Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Lifesteps, Inc., 383 New Castle Rd. Butler, PA 16001.