



Leeds Dye Gurney

May 9, 1934 - March 17, 2026

Helen "Gay" Roberta Leeds Dye Gurney was born on May 9, 1934 in Pennsylvania, to parents Robert Leeds and Helen Connery. Leeds peacefully passed on March 17, 2026 in Winter Park, Florida.

Leeds grew up in Pennsylvania, before moving to Florida to attend the University of Florida as a fine arts major. It was at UF that she met her husband, John E. Dye, through Greek life. The pair married in 1955 and enjoyed a wonderful life together with their three children. They moved into their beloved home in Winter Park, and built a summer condo in Vero Beach. Leeds continued to spend most summers in Vero throughout her life, a ritual that reflected her longtime love of the shore. Leeds was widowed in 1973, and later remarried Senator Edward J. Gurney.

Leeds's love of art and architecture was evident in every aspect of her life. She was an avid traveler who relished the finer things in life, she took pleasure in elegant entertaining, cultivated taste, and the company of her beloved cats. She will be remembered for impeccable manners, a quick wit, and a sharp, discerning mind.

She is survived by her three children, Leeds Dye (Daria), Susan Dye Smalley (Charlie), Jeffrey Dye, four grandchildren, Christian Nilon (Patrick), Johnny Dye, Robert Dye, Taylor Dye and great-granddaughter, Mae Nilon.

Leeds will be interred with the love of her life, Johnny Dye, in Winter Park. A private service for immediate family will be held.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Winter Park YMCA Family Center.