



## Betty Dunn, KPHS Class of 1949

Beatrice Elizabeth Buchanan, known as Betty, graduated Valedictorian from Kings Park High with many athletic and scholarly awards. She went on to earn her college degree from St. Lawrence University in 1953, where she received even more athletic honors—in hockey and volleyball—as well as election to the Kalon-Kixioc Honor Society.

She married her childhood sweetheart, Leo J. Dunn, in 1954 while he was a medical student at Columbia University. She herself received a six-year appointment to the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York City, where she worked with Dr. Lorente de No on the effect of opioids on nerve conduction. Betty and Leo Dunn lived in New York, Cincinnati, and Iowa City before settling in Richmond, VA in 1967.

Betty became very active in the Richmond community. She volunteered in a school for the deaf, served on a foundation providing educational scholarships to female prisoners, founded (along with 4 others) the Hospital Hospitality House, and became Chair of Docents of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. At the University of Richmond, Betty obtained a paralegal certification and became a founding member of the First Community Bank. Seeing a need to support women pursuing academic careers, she was also a founding member of the Virginia Commonwealth University Women's Faculty Club. Her laboratory skills and science background allowed her to develop a successful program for genetic assessment of amniotic fluid at VCU that still exists today.

After a long and full life, Betty Dunn passed away on December 5, 2017.