

Funeral Service Held For Mrs. Betty Fowler

HACKETTSTOWN — Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon for Mrs. Grace Elizabeth (Betty) Fowler of 115 Church St., outstanding civic leader and former freelance writer and insurance agent, who died Wednesday at St. Barnabas Hospital in Livingston after a long illness.

Rev. Dr. Lowell M. Atkinson conducted rites at Trinity Methodist Church, of which she was a member. Interment was in Pleasant Grove Cemetery, Pleasant Grove.

Arrangements were made by Cochran Funeral Home. The family has requested contributions be made to Hackettstown Community Hospital or the Hackettstown Rescue Squad in lieu of flowers.

Born May 31, 1911 in New York City, Mrs. Fowler was a daughter of the late Thomas and Gracia Smith Mitchell. She moved here 27 years ago from Forest Hills, Long Island, N.Y.

Survivors include her husband, Frank L., former



MRS. GRACE E. FOWLER

mayor of Hackettstown; two sons, James of Columbus, Ohio, and Rev. Frank L. Fowler III of Plainfield; a daughter, Mrs. Charles Berge, Sussex; a sister, Miss Dorothy Jane Mitchell, Fishkill, N.Y.; and seven grandchildren.

A graduate of Kew Forest School, Mrs. Fowler attended the School of Journalism at Columbia University. She wrote a column, "Ink Spots" under the pseudonym of Betty Blotz for The Hackettstown Gazette, was a feature story writer for The Gazette and Morristown Daily Record, was Hackettstown correspondent for The Washington Star and was a news correspondent for Radio Stations WCRV in Washington, WMTR in Morristown and WYFO in Stroudsburg. She also wrote the "Hackettstown and Vicinity" column for The Star-Gazette for several years until her retirement last year due to illness.

Chairman of Delta Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Phi Sorority and initial "Outstanding Woman of the Year" in 1972, Mrs. Fowler received a plaque and bouquet for "outstanding" work in the community and concern for the human race.

Co-founder of Senior Girl Scouts here, she was a charter member and outstanding worker for FISH, was active in the Red Cross Bloodmobile program and for three years assisted a men's service club group by driving crippled children from Camp Merry Heart, Mt. Bethel Road to Hackettstown for church services.

Among Mrs. Fowler's favorite projects was working as a volunteer for Hackettstown Community Hospital, which last year awarded her a "Certificate of Appreciation" from its Civic Advisory Council. An associate member of the hospital's council, she had served as publicity chairman for fund raising events, was associate head of several "tosses" and was public relations consultant for the hospital prior to its opening.

Commending Mrs. Fowler for her support of the local medical facility, Charley Blaine, Hackettstown Community Hospital executive director said, "The Board of Trustees and the Civic Advisory Council join me in saying Mrs. Fowler personified the spirit within the community that made our hospital a reality. 'Not only did she give generously and completely of her time and energy in all phases of the hospital development, but often when she was physically incapacitated,' Elbridge continued. "She was an inspiration to all of us who had the privilege of working with her. Her determination, her optimism and her perseverance in organizing several fund drives and contributions of more than \$100,000. The hospital has lost a dear friend. The establishment of The Betty Fowler Memorial Fund at the hospital will honor her friends in the community and honor the name of a true humanitarian."

Star-Gazette,
October 17, 1974

OBITUARY:
Grace E. Fowler
Date of Death,
October 9, 1974