

[Gail Moffat Hudson](#)

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GAIL MOFFAT HUDSON Gail M. Hudson, 77, passed away on Saturday, May 21, 2016, at home surrounded by her loving family. Born in New York, New York, on August 2, 1938, Gail Cranford Moffat, the daughter of George Palmer Moffat, Jr. and Marion (Stuckless) Moffat, grew up in Yonkers and Scarsdale, New York. Gail graduated with high honors from Scarsdale High School, Class of 1956. For the next four years she attended her mother's alma mater, Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. Gail's years there led to a close relationship with the school that had endured for the remainder of her life. After graduating from Mount Holyoke College in 1960, Gail assumed a full time teaching position with Punahou School as a mathematics teacher. Three years later Gail married and moved back to the mainland, where she taught in Groton, Connecticut, and Oakland, California, for the next five years. Gail returned to Hawaii and Punahou School in 1968 to once again teach Middle School mathematics where she remained until 1982. Among her students was a young boy known as Barry Obama. And just a few years back, Barry Obama sent Gail a letter on White House stationery wishing her a Happy 75th birthday that she treasured. After a divorce from her first husband in 1972, Gail married Barry St. Cere Hudson, owner of Barry's Full Service Union Station in Kahala, on Oahu. Immediately, she assumed a new title of stepmother to Barry's children-- Barry II, Holly, and Kelly Colleen. Even with Barry spending long hours at the Union Service Station, and Gail teaching full time at Punahou, Gail and Barry got involved in many community activities, including the 1979 Honolulu Marathon, which they completed crossing the finish line together. They also became active with the Honolulu Symphony Fun Run, a fundraiser to support the orchestra, as well as many other fund-raisers for Honolulu's growing community theatre programs. In 1982, Gail left Punahou assuming the position of Executive Secretary with the Honolulu Symphony until 1993 when she lost her husband Barry to cancer. In 1994, Gail met Phillip Buck Olsen, a Honolulu Marathon runner and board member, and longtime friend of her deceased husband Barry. Phil was a retired US Air Force officer and pilot who had recently retired as an associate dean with the University of Hawaii and after an Alaskan cruise, that included two dozen mutual friends from Honolulu, and a lengthy courtship, involving more extensive travel, Gail and Phil married on October 25, 1997, in the Punahou School Chapel. Their marriage was one of mutual love and respect, which never stopped growing and blooming, especially in Gail's last years when she became afflicted with progressive supranuclear palsy, a type of Parkinson's disease. For more than 30 years, Gail interviewed and recruited more than 125 young women from Hawaii who matriculated at Mount Holyoke College. Her dedication and successful efforts were recognized multiple times: first by the Mount Holyoke College Alumnae Association on May 25, 2005, when she was awarded the Mary Lyon Bronze Medal, again in 2010 and 2015, during her 50th and 55th Class of 1960 reunions. Gail established in her mother's name and her own, the Moffat/Hudson Scholarship, which provides transportation funding for Hawaii students to and from Mount Holyoke College. Her parents and her brother, George Palmer Moffat III, of Tucson, Arizona, predeceased Gail. She is survived by her husband, Phillip Buck Olsen of Honolulu; brother John Roberts Moffat (Karen Lerner) of Bellingham, Washington; nephews Robert John Moffat of Longmont, Colorado, William Joseph Moffat (Amy) of Tucson, Arizona; Daniel Taylor Moffat of Portland, Oregon; Kenneth George Moffat of Seattle, Washington; niece Diane Lee Sausman (Aaron) of Snohomish, Washington; great-nieces and -nephews Ashley Moffat, Thomas Moffat, Dominic Sausman and Tori Sausman; sister-in-law LaDonna Moffat of Tucson; cousins Don (Barbara) Laws of Sea Girt, New Jersey; Doug (Marlene) Laws of Des Plaines, Illinois; John Stuckless (Cathie Messa) of Evergreen, Colorado; and Diane Stuckless Meyer (Robert) of Michigan. Gail is also survived by her "Calabash Cousins" from WWII days: John Ronveaux (Kathy Edwards) of Alexandria, Virginia; Ric Ronveaux (Kay) of Brentwood, Tennessee; Albert Crane of New

York; and Carole Crane Finck (Tom) of Vero Beach, Florida. A Celebration of Life and reception will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016 at 1PM in the Punahou School Chapel, in Honolulu, Hawaii. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Gail M. Hudson to Hawaii Parkinson Association, PO Box 1312, Kailua, HI 96734, or online at: <http://www.parkinsonshawaii.org>.