

Phebe Vandervort Goldstein  
*A Celebration of Life*



January 11, 2020



The Freer House  
71 East Ferry

## **Phebe Vandervort Goldstein**

August 6, 1930 - January 4, 2020

Phebe passed away quietly in her sleep after returning from a visit with her extended family in Orange County, NY.

Phebe Bull Vandervort was born in State College, PA in 1930. In 1946, her parents Helen Bull Vandervort and John Vandervort moved to Ithaca, NY, where she graduated from Ithaca High School. She attended Cornell University, graduating from the College of Home Economics with a major in Early Childhood Education in 1952. At Cornell, she was a member of the Alpha Phi sorority, through which she met her husband Sidney. In addition, she spent a semester at the Merrill Palmer Institute in Detroit, where her mother had been a student in 1925. She did not realize that she would return to Detroit and that Merrill Palmer's Freer House would be a focus of her advocacy efforts in historic preservation. As a proud Cornell graduate, she missed few reunions and helped in fundraising campaigns for the university.

After Cornell, Phebe and Sid moved to New York City, where she taught Kindergarten in Great Neck, Monroe, and the Upper East Side, while Sid was at the Cornell Medical School. They then spent two years in Wiesbaden, Germany where Sid was stationed with the United States Air Force. In 1962 Phebe and Sid moved to Rochester, NY where he was Chair of Cardiology at Rochester General Hospital. Their first child, Carolyn, was born in 1962, David was born in 1969. In 1972 they spent a sabbatical year in Rotterdam, Netherlands. Their life in New York and Europe exposed them to the world of contemporary art and design that focused their travels for decades.

The family moved to Bloomfield Hills, MI in 1974, when Sidney became Chief of Cardiovascular Medicine at Henry Ford Hospital. Phebe developed a network of friends through Henry Ford Hospital and Cranbrook Schools, where her children attended school. She became an advocate for local arts and education, assuming leadership positions at numerous organizations. Notable positions included: Governor for the Cranbrook Schools, Chair of the Detroit Institute of Arts Graphics Arts Council, Chair of the Board of Directors of Wayne State University's Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute/Freer House, and Fundraising Chair of 'Art from the Heart' for Henry Ford Hospital's Heart and Vascular Institute. Her intent was to celebrate and preserve the creativity of others, and share her experiences with those she met along the way. She and Sid built a welcoming home filled with art they loved, gathered from local artists and their travels.

Phebe is survived by her brother Jack Vandervort of Naples, FL, her husband of 64 years Sidney, her daughter Carolyn M. Goldstein, with her husband Jon Haber, and two grandsons Eli and Ben of Lexington, MA, and her son David J. Goldstein with his wife Robin, and four grandchildren Sasha, Simone, Clio, and Seth of Rumney, NH.

## **Order of Service**

**1:00**

### **Welcome**

Dr. John Hannigan, professor  
Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute

William Colburn, director of Freer House

### **Remembrances**

Dr. Sidney Goldstein  
Carolyn M. Goldstein  
David J. Goldstein

### **Open for Friend and Family Memories**

**2:30**

### **Reading of Psalm 23**

**2:30 - 3:30 Reception and Optional Tours**

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.