Nafe Sarah Underhill (Sally), writer, grandmother, and great friend to many, died on June 21 in Vancouver, British Columbia. She was 88 years old. Born in Media, Pennsylvania, Sally was a talented and determined force. Right up until the time of her death, she was actively involved with The Brock House Writers Group. After graduating from Swarthmore College, Sally was invited to join a writers' group led by Lucy Sprague Mitchell, founder of Bank Street College in New York. Later she worked to plan and design a children's reading room for the Palisades Library. She wrote with grace, humor, and astonishing detail about the many people, animals, and travels in her and Jack’s busy life.

She was married for 55 years to John Elliott (Jack) Nafe, Professor of Geophysics at Columbia University and Geology Department Chair from 1962 to 1965. In 1958, Jack’s groundbreaking research first demonstrated that sound waves could travel around the entire globe through the ocean. They lived at Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory for nearly 30 years before moving to Vancouver, and during that time she worked tirelessly to host the constant flow of scientists and their families. They were truly charter members of the Lamont family.

Sally’s Quaker background traces to two of the original sixty followers of George Fox (Friends/Quaker Founder). Her great-grandfather, George Truman, was a founder of Swarthmore College. During the last twenty-five years in Vancouver she lived for joy, companionship, countless friends, animals and birds, a good yarn, and the sweeping view of UBC, Georgia Strait, and mountain peaks from her apartment. One particularly handsome peak, she had adopted as “Mt. Jack”, after her late husband.

She is survived by her daughters, Mary Malcolm (Mackie) Chase of Vancouver and Katharine (Kate) Kenah of Granville Ohio, their husbands, Richard L. Chase and Christopher Kenah, and six grandchildren: Sarah, Sam, and Eli Chase, Eben and Hannah Kenah, Molly Kenah Sullivan, and their partners Lucas Liepins, Christy Nieto, Asma Aktar, and Andrew Sullivan.

A memorial gathering took place at Brock House in Vancouver on June 24th.

Three causes especially dear to her heart are: The American Friends Service Committee, The World Wildlife Fund, and The Brock House Society of Vancouver