

Helen (Calderwood) Harker

Class of 1923

Born and raised in Grove City, Helen (Calderwood) Harker was categorized in various ways, such as oldest daughter of the dean of the College, minister's wife and wife of Grove City College's president.

Following her marriage to Dr. J. Stanley Harker '25, her service centered mainly on the women and young people in the Presbyterian churches in which her husband served as pastor. These locales include Saltsburg, Pa., Martins Ferry, Ohio, and Hamilton, Ohio. Her activities changed slightly in 1951, when she became first lady at Alma College in Michigan, serving there for more than five years.



J. Stanley Harker then became Grove City College's fourth president in 1956. During the 15 years while her husband served as president of Grove City College, she committed herself wholeheartedly to the students.

Her countless hours of counseling, entertaining and being a gracious hostess were rewarded during the 1970-71 academic year. At the suggestion of the Association of Women Students, a new women's residence hall under construction was named in her honor. Helen Harker Hall was dedicated on June 4, 1971. In addition, Mrs. Harker belonged to the Grove City Women's Club, the Literary Club and the American Association of University Women.

She is also noted for her years of teaching French and Latin to students in the high schools of Clarion, Carnegie and McKeesport, Pa.

She passed away Sept. 8, 1996.