

Mrs. Harkins

Bess Hines Harkins, 74 of Highlands and Oxnard, Calif., passed away Sunday, Aug. 17, at home after an illness. Born in Faison to James Alexander Hines and Bessie Hinson Hines, moved to Highlands as a child and lived there for 33 years. In recent years she has spent half the year in Highlands and half at her Oxnard Beach home.

She has published many books, among them "Singing of the Heart," "Unknown Seas," "Songs Out of Silence," "To Highlands With Love," "Dream Blue Altitudes," and with her husband, "Butler Sterling Harkins," "Sequoia Bound." She received numerous awards for her poetry and has been called by some "the Emily Dickenson of the Blue Ridge Mountains." She liked to call herself "Bess the Woods Wanderer."

Surviving are her husband, Butler Sterling Harkins; two daughters, Estelle Harkins, of Oxnard and Sarah Harkins-Beard; two sisters, Sarah Hines of Carpinteria, Calif.; and Nancy Ormond of Ojai, Calif.

Services will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. Father Charlie Bryan will officiate. Her remains will be cremated and a marker will be placed in the Highlands Cemetery.

Memorials may be made either to the Hudson Library or the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.