

## **CATHARINE SHAW RANKIN**

a.k.a. "CATS"

Born and raised in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania

### **Education Background:**

- 1925 - Graduate of Phoenixville High School
- 1929 - Graduate of Temple University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. While at Temple University, Ms. Rankin was a champion swimmer, enjoyed tennis and golf.
- Earned a Master's of Science Degree from Columbia University.
- 1929-1969 – Ms. Rankin taught Health, Physical Education and Biology at Phoenixville Area High School. A pioneer in women's athletics, Ms. Rankin coached field hockey, basketball and softball for over twenty-five years (25). Her 1940 basketball team was undefeated from ninth through twelfth grades. The Rankin Award in Girls Basketball is named in her honor. Ms. Rankin taught her players to show dignity in defeat and grace in victory.

### **Community Service:**

- Member of the following organizations:
  - First United Methodist Church of Phoenixville.
  - The Phoenixville Music Club.
  - The Garden Club of Phoenixville.
  - The Phoenixville Historical Society.
  - The Phoenixville Country Club.
  - Meadowbrook Golf Course & Sierra Club.
- Ms. Rankin was a former champion at Meadowbrook Golf Course and one of the founders of the Phoenixville Auxiliary Golf League.
- As a member of the Phoenixville Garden Club, Ms. Rankin decorated the community with her beautiful plants and flowers, especially the urns on Nutt Road. Ms. Rankin taught the Phoenixville community to see the beauty of nature and the need to protect it.

*Ms. Rankin's life revolved around teaching and the Phoenixville community.  
She taught us to be honest, to care for and trust each other,  
to always give our best effort and never forget to offer a helping hand.*

*She was the perfect ambassador for Phoenixville.*