



Helen Adams Keller

June 27, 1880 - June 1, 1968

Died: Easton, Connecticut

Interment: Washington National Cathedral, Washington, D.C.

Helen Adams Keller died in Easton, Connecticut, on June 1, 1968. She was eighty-seven. Born in Tuscumbia, Alabama, on June 27, 1880, she lost sight and hearing after an illness in infancy, and the world that remained was a dark, soundless house until Anne Sullivan spelled w-a-t-e-r into a child's palm at the yard pump. Ivy Green, in Tuscumbia, still keeps that pump.

She learned to read and write, to speak, and to argue. Radcliffe gave her a degree. The rest of her life was not a miracle play. She wrote, traveled for the American Foundation for the Blind, stood with labor, and pressed for a franchise wider than the one that had applauded her as a girl. Presidents answered her letters. She answered back.

She asked to be taken as a citizen with opinions, not as a symbol dusted for company. Tuscumbia is where the work began. Her ashes rest in the columbarium of Washington National Cathedral.

Services

Died in Easton, Connecticut, on June 1, 1968. Funeral at Washington National Cathedral. Ashes in the Cathedral columbarium.

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