

OBITUARIES

Mary L. Gleason Vail, 94, led many organizations

By DELL M. MOSLEY

PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

CLEVELAND — Mary Louise Gleason Vail was raised with the ethic of giving back to the community. She spent a lifetime serving others.

She was a trustee of and the only woman to have served as president of the Cuyahoga County Hospital, and was a trustee and past president of the Visiting Nurse Association.

Mrs. Vail, 94, of Cleveland, died Friday at University Hospitals of Cleveland.

She graduated from Laurel School and Wellesley College with a bachelor's degree.

She also graduated from Cleveland School of Art and New York School of Fine and Applied Art, Paris branch.

She was a trustee of University Circle Inc. and the Fairfax Foundation. She was a member of the resources committee at Case Western Reserve University

Medical School, the Health Planning and Development Commission, Shaker Lakes Garden Club and the Junior Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art.

She received numerous awards, including the United Appeal Distinguished Service Award, Cleveland Chamber of Commerce Gold Medal for Public Service, Ohio Hospital Association Outstanding Trustee Award, and a commendation from the Ohio General Assembly.

She is listed in Who's Who in American Women and Who's Who in Ohio.

Mrs. Vail also served the Cleveland Welfare Federation as a trustee and member of the Executive Committee and the Central Budget and Policy Committee. She once chaired the federation's committee on the chronically ill.

She was a trustee of Cleveland Community Chest and United Appeal.

She was chairman of the Visiting Committee of Francis Payne

Bolton School of Nursing and vice president of National League for Nursing.

She was a member of the Regional Medical Program and a trustee with the Cleveland Center on Alcoholism, the Cleveland Society for the Blind and the YWCA.

She also served on Cleveland Heights Health Department Advisory Committee and was a member and president of the board of trustees at Laurel School. She was president of the Recreation League of Cleveland.

Her husbands, Charles B. Gleason and Herman L. Vail, are deceased.

Survivors include her daughter, Caroline G. Oberndorf of Cleveland; son, David Gleason of California; stepsons, H. Lansing Vail of Shaker Heights and Thomas V.H. Vail of Hunting Valley; stepdaughters, Jane Vaughan of Chagrin Falls; stepson, Stanton K. Gleason of Chatham, Mass.; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and six step-great-grandchildren.



Mary L. Gleason Vail

The family requests memorial contributions be sent to the Cleveland Institute of Art, 111 East Blvd., Cleveland 44106 or the Laurel School, 1 Lyman Circle, Shaker Heights 44112.

Memorial services will be held 7 p.m. Thursday at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights.

Brown-Forward Funeral Home in Shaker Heights is handling arrangements.