

## Ann Karfiol Rothman

Annie Rothman was a significant figure in Danby's history. She is pictured here sitting on her front porch in the 1990's. Provided below, her obituary and the wording on a memorial plaque at the Historical Society's museum (since lost in Hurricane Irene) provides a summary of her significant contributions to the town.



### Ann Karfiol Rothman's Obituary

May 16, 1931-June 5, 2010

Born in Manhattan, New York, NY

Resided in Danby, Vermont from 1986-2010

Ann (known affectionately as Annie) was a singular woman whose life touched the lives of many. She was an iconoclastic thinker and lived on her own terms. A talented writer and decorator, Ann was primarily known in the later years of her life as a passionate champion for Danby; her love of the town was reflected in her determination to revitalize it, and she spent the preponderance of her efforts and time doing so. She helped the Fire Department; was awarded by the State of Vermont for her efforts in the restoration of Danby; conducted significant research on the town's benefactor, Silas Griffith, "the Santa Claus Bandit"; was the Secretary of the Danby-Mount Tabor Historical Society; and owner of many historic buildings along Main Street, Danby (collectively known as Danby Green), as well as the proprietor of the Gallery of Danby Green and Annie's Kitchen, a shop selling decorative house and kitchen wares.

Ann is survived by five daughters: Nancy Schulman Schutt, Susan Schulman, Edwina Schulman, Donna Rothman and Deborah Rothman Sherman; as well as six grandchildren: Jared and Jacob Gabbay, David and Evan Schutt, Jason Garrelick, and Alexandra Sherman.

Memorial Plaque to Ann Karfiol Rothman at Mt. Tabor-Danby Historical Society Museum

*(Since destroyed by Hurricane Irene)*

"Annie" was the Founder of the Mt. Tabor Danby Historical Society in 1985 and served as a Director and Secretary. Born to the inventor Edward Karfiol and his wife Ida, she was raised in Manhattan, was mother of 5 daughters, and purchased an old farm on Danby Hill Road in 1968 as a vacation home. She became a full time Danby resident in the mid 1980's and was known for her legendary lawn parties. In 1985 she purchased this and eight other buildings, including the residence of the late Pearl S. Buck and began a revitalization project for which she received the Roger Brown Award. She was a talented interior decorator and writer who spent twenty years researching and writing about Danby's benefactor, Silas Griffith. Her car sported the tag, "SILAS." As proprietor of The Gallery of Danby Green she delighted in selling fine china, porcelains, crystal, and gourmet kitchen wares.