Her Legacy... Madeleine Raeberta Leonard was born July 16, 1914, in Oroville, California, to her parents Lucille B. and Raymond Anthony Leonard. She grew up at the family home on Floral Avenue, with her younger brother, Raymond Anthony Leonard Jr. Her father was a civil engineer and also served as Butte County District Attorney. Madeleine attended Oroville schools, graduating from Oroville High School in 1932. She attended Scripps College, UC Berkeley and then court reporter’s school. In 1936, she married a fellow OHS graduate, Kenneth E. Adams. When he joined the Army Air Corps and was stationed in Florida, Madeleine became a court reporter and legal secretary to Jack M. McPherson, then District Attorney for Butte County. After the war, Kenneth and Madeleine spent a few years in San Jose and Oakland before returning to their home town. Once back in Oroville, Kenneth established his business, Adams Butane Company, and the couple oversaw the design and construction of their adobe brick house. When their two daughters reached school age, Madeleine became active in the Butte County Republican Women’s Club and Omega Nu Sorority. She loved to cook, entertain, and could put together a delicious picnic dinner on an hour’s notice – to enjoy at Bidwell Bar – a great swimming hole and state park that was a favorite summer evening destination in the 1950’s in the days before air conditioning. After her two daughters grew up and established homes of their own, Madeleine and her husband enjoyed traveling. They went to Europe several times, as well as Japan and Canada. In 1982, they began their annual tradition of renting a beach house on Monterey Bay – a tradition that continued for 29 years. In 2005, Madeleine embarked on a new chapter in her life. With friends, she hired a local caterer to prepare her evening meals. Don Conway, the Oroville chef and caterer, provided wonderful dinners – with lemon meringue pie being Madeleine’s favorite dessert. In 2008, Madeleine moved to an apartment at Country Crest, with a stunning view of the Sutter Buttes. She continued to play bridge with several foursomes, had season tickets at local theater shows. Madeleine passed away on February 28, 2013 in Oroville, California.

Her Family... Madeleine was preceded in death by her husband in 1986. She is survived by her daughters, Jan Adams (John D.) Cox of Sacramento, CA; and Sally (Clifford) Kenst, of Stockton, CA; granddaughter Melissa Kenst of Stockton, CA; and grandson Chris Kenst of Agoura Hills.

Please sign their guest book at www.RamseyFuneralHomes.com