



Jane M. Patterson

January 25, 1929 - April 15, 2019

In Memoriam:

Jane Evelyn Mayo Patterson

Our beloved Jane was born January 25th, 1929, at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, New York. She was one of three children, with older brothers Herbert and Richard, to her parents Marjorie Hollins and Theodore Mayo.

Jane attended Mt Pleasant High School during the last years of World War II, graduating in the class of 1947. At Mt Pleasant, her mother encouraged her to take part in the extra curricular Modeling and Drama Class, in part to help overcome her shyness. It was there that she met her future husband, the dashing young Harold R (AKA "Pat") Patterson Jr, for the first time. They became fast friends and co-performers in dramatic productions, and before long the friendship blossomed into romance. The pair were married on July 2, 1947, a marriage of true love and devotion that would last over 71 years and into eternity.

When Pat became an officer in the Army soon after their marriage, he was immediately deployed to Korea. Jane stayed with Pat's parents for a year during this time, before making a distant journey by sea, sailing through the Panama Canal and across the Pacific to reunite with Pat for a new deployment in Japan.

In 1950, after 18 months in Japan, Jane returned with Pat to the United States, living as an officer's wife and homemaker in their first home in Fort Benning, GA. Her travel with Pat continued in 1953 when he was stationed in Germany. Here, the couple welcomed their first daughter Ellen, born with dual German-American citizenship in June 1954.

1956 brought Jane, Pat and young Ellen back to America, settling in Washington DC metropolitan area. The family lived in Arlington VA until they bought their second home in the Ridgeview subdivision in Alexandria, VA. Here, the family grew to six, as Jane and Pat saw the birth of three more children: their second daughter, Janice, born September 1958;

their third daughter, Pamela, born January 1961; and a son, Harold R. Patterson III (AKA "Harry"), born February 1964. She was a patient and loving mother, celebrating their milestones and accomplishments with pride, joy and love, and selflessly supporting them in difficult times.

Jane joined the workforce in 1967 as a legal secretary for Mr. Henry Counts, supporting a small law office in Old Town Alexandria. In 1969, the family moved 7 houses down the street from Ridgeview to another subdivision called Wilton Woods.

Along the wooded banks of Lake Lariat in Chesapeake Ranch Club, Calvert County MD, Jane and Pat saw the potential for a family summer house, and in 1972 they had an A-frame house built there which they lovingly called "Camp" in the tradition of the retreats of upstate New York. The completion of Camp was celebrated with an inaugural Thanksgiving dinner in November 1972, and many family trips filled the house with happy memories for years to come.

Jane and Pat moved to Burke, VA in 1983, where she and Pat enjoyed a long retirement and years of international travel. While here at the Burke home and later in Springfield VA at Greenspring Village from 2002, Jane's loving support of her family deepened as she became a Grandmother to nine boys: Austin in 1980, Brandon and Ryan in 1986, Colin in 1989, Trey in 1990, Jake in 1996, Michael in 1999, JD in 2002, and Alex in 2004. In 2008 she was thrilled to become a great grandmother with Austin's three children: Neo and Dex in 2008, and Sloane in 2012, her first great-granddaughter.

Although Jane was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in 1958, she lived an unusually long and normal life for over 60 years. Against all odds and in addition to her daily monitoring of her Diabetes, Jane overcame serious medical conditions including a heart attack requiring three stents, heart surgery to improve functioning of her aortic valve as part of a research study in 2013, a severe stroke in 2015, and most recently, Bullous Pemphigoid, a very rare and difficult auto-immune blistering disease. Despite all her medical challenges, she demonstrated grace and determination with characteristic good humor with her family by her side.

Throughout her life, Jane was a creative role model at church, at home, and in her community. She attended Olivet Episcopal Church regularly from 1958 to present, singing Alto in the choir and serving on the Altar Guild. She contributed her humor and creative input to many activities and projects including Christmas pageants, Easter Pageants, the annual Strawberry Festival, Koinonia, and many other parish events in the Undercroft at Olivet.

In her home life and for the community, Jane used her artistic talents as a dynamic and creative Brownie & Girl Scout leader for all three of her daughters, and always volunteered for camping trips – often recognized for designing the best projects for earning badges.

In her free time, Jane loved literature and novels, and loved to buy books to feed her appetite as a voracious reader. She also found a festive creative outlet in making decorations for the seasons and the holidays, which those around her so appreciated. Each year her skills as an expert seamstress were on display as she crafted award winning Halloween costumes for her children. Her affinity for textile crafts also extended naturally to the handmade clothes she made for her family's daily wear, nightgowns and special occasion dresses, as well as curtains, pillows and decor for every home she lived in.

As an artist, she also loved to paint. She painted large portraits and scenes that were recognized regionally and exhibited in art shows. She lent her talents to her church with large murals, including a depiction of Mount Vernon in the basement of Olivet, as well as nursery rhyme characters in the nursery school classrooms. At home and at camp she filled her home with personalized artworks such as daisies in the kitchen, the “lady hanging laundry” in the laundry room, and “cowboy & indian themed” murals at camp using leftover paint from various projects.

In her later years, Jane traveled the world with Pat, exploring faraway places and living out the romance of their youth. Keeping extensive records of ephemera from the trips, she has put together dozens of beautiful scrapbooks, creatively presented with a focus on capturing their memorable experiences together.

Throughout her life, Jane has always taken the time to make her surroundings better, even in small ways, and to showcase the wonderful people and places that filled her long and fortunate life. Her surviving family and friends will miss her elegance, her strength, her optimism, her wit and her faith, and her deep devotion to making the world a more beautiful place.

Relatives and friends may pay their respects at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Dr., Alexandria, VA on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 from 2-4PM. A funeral will be held the same day at Olivet Episcopal Church, 6107 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, VA 22310 at 5PM. Interment Arlington National Cemetery on a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Jane's name to the American Diabetes Association.

Jane Evelyn Mayo Patterson

1929 - 2019

Events

APR **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

23

Jefferson Funeral Chapel

5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA, US, 22315

APR **Service** 05:00PM

23

Olivet Episcopal Church

6107 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, US, 22310

Comments



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 22 at 10:12 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 22 at 11:54 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 22 at 10:32 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 21 at 04:57 PM



“ I enjoyed watching Jane check her "cheat sheet" seeing how she should approach her bowling shots. She was usually right! I wonderful lady.

Kitty Conlan

Kitty Conlan - April 21 at 04:50 PM



“ Dearest Pat,
We cannot the k of Olivet without warm thoughts and memories of you and your wonderful wife Jane. You and your family have our deepest sympathies and many prayers for a peaceful heart. You were blessed by Jane for many years and those who were fortunate to share in your life together have also been blessed. We wish you strength and peace. Love, Fr, Dave and Donna Harper

David and Donna Harper - April 20 at 10:13 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 20 at 11:21 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 18 at 12:43 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 17 at 02:38 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jane M. Patterson.



April 16 at 10:08 PM



“ Sending love, hugs and prayers to y'all. I remember her fun-loving spirit and kindness. Such a gentle soul, who will be missed by many. May your fond memories warm your hearts.
Paula Lelansky

paula lelansky - April 16 at 07:58 PM



“ Thinking about you Janice and your beautiful mom

jeannie cole gracy - April 18 at 03:26 PM



“ We have been friends with Pat and Jane for years. It started at Olivet Episcopal Church when Ronnie and I got married in 1980. We were all in a group called the "Young and the Rest of Us". We had many parties and festivities that we enjoyed together. Jane was a wonderful person and she will be surely missed. Thanks for all the good times.

Ron and Kris Simms - April 20 at 08:41 AM



“ With great sadness we learned of Jane's passing and offer our deepest sympathy and condolences. Jane and Pat were among the first of the Olivet family we met. We were warmly greeted by their care and hospitality. Three things still remain firmly entrenched in my memory. The first was when I served on a Cursillo team and had forgotten to bring along one of my meds. Pat and Jane made a special trip to bring my med to me. Then next was their attending a home fellowship group and bible study. Their faith was well founded. The last was Jane' making my Cursillo shirt in a most original and artful way. Thank you both. Jane now has entered the gates of larger life with the words of welcome " Well done faithful servant, enter my rest." Dottie & Bob Tedesco

Dottie & Bob Tedesco - April 21 at 07:35 PM



“ Dear Pat, Ellen, Janice, Harry and families,
Geoff and I are so very sorry for the loss of your dear Jane. She was such a beautiful lady, inside and out. I have so many fond memories of Jane and your family from Olivet, Ellen and my sister, Pam's, friendship as kids, and finally through our connection through the Embrey family. Ellen is such a wonderful sister-in-law. I can only imagine the joy as she was reunited with your sweet Pam in heaven. May they rest peacefully in Everlasting peace! Much love to all of you and I will be attending the service and looking forward to giving each of you a big hug:) Janice and Geoff Embrey

Janice Embrey - April 21 at 10:14 PM