



## Mary Jane Haas

July 8, 1932 - July 24, 2013

Mary Jane Haas, 81, passed away peacefully on July 24, 2013 at Arleigh Burke Pavillion in McLean, Virginia.

Born in Yonkers, New York in 1932, Mary Jane moved to Alexandria, Virginia as a child where she remained a life long resident. She was the daughter of Mary Elizabeth Duffy and William Raphael Farrell, an architect, and grew up in their home in Wilton Woods. After graduating valedictorian at St. Mary's Academy, she attended St. Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana where she met her husband of 61 years, George Arthur Haas, then a Ph.D physics student at the University of Notre Dame. They were married in 1951 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Old Town Alexandria and eventually built their own home in Wilton Woods where they raised their four children.

Mary Jane had a rich family life and shared many interests with her husband – from summers camping in Maine and travels abroad, to collecting early American antiques and Tonalist paintings, and building an extensive American folk art collection. She loved to entertain, garden alongside her dogs, and play the piano. When her children left home for college, she enrolled at George Mason University to complete her BA in Art History. She subsequently served as a museum docent at the National Portrait Gallery, Gadsby's Tavern and other historical sites in Alexandria. She also served as President of the Alexandria Lyceum Board of Directors for several years in the 1990s.

Above all, Mary Jane was passionate about her family and grandchildren, for whom she served as a strong role model and source of inspiration. Her grace,

wit, integrity and character, as well as warmth, generosity, humor and sense of what is right and wrong will continue to guide and inspire them. She is survived by her husband, George A. Haas; four children, Theresa H. Krause (Robert) of Winchester Va, Patricia Haas-Cleveland (David) of New York City, Susan H. Meyer (Theodore) of McLean and Christopher Haas of Alexandria – as well as seven grandchildren, Carly Krause, Eric Krause, Carter Cleveland, Christopher Cleveland, Theodore Meyer, Joseph Meyer and Timothy Meyer. Friends and family are welcome to attend a gathering on Tuesday, July 30th from 6-8pm at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, July 31st at 10am at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 310 S. Royal Street, Alexandria. A Celebration of Mary Jane's life will follow. The inurnment will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that a donation be made to the American Cancer Society ([www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)) P.O. Box 22718 Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718, Alzheimer's Association ([www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)) P.O. Box 96011 Washington DC 20090-6011, or PureMadi ([www.puremadi.org](http://www.puremadi.org)) UVA Fund P.O. Box 400314 Charlottesville, VA 22904, a non-profit organization for water purification in Africa, co-founded by her granddaughter Carly.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Jane Haas*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Obituary Wall*



**Jefferson Funeral Chapel** - January 28, 2019 at 09:25 AM



“ *My sincerest condolences. All the best to the rest of the family.*

August 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heart is heavy with the passing of your mother. Having known your Mom most of my life there are no words to tell you how much she meant to me. My childhood is filled with wonderful memories of the time I spent next door with your Mom and with the Haas family.*

*Your Mom was always there for me, always greeting me with her warmth, her smile and of course, something freshly baked. Your Mom always knew what I needed and no matter what I may have been feeling or going through at my own home she let me know I had a second home next door. She never failed to let me know that it would be alright and turned my tears into laughter,*

*I visited your Mom on my last trip to Virginia. We sat on the back porch and laughed together one last time about all the silly things I did as a kid. I was so touched that she still remembered so many things we did together. When I left I cried knowing that it would be my last back porch visit but was happy that I was able to tell your mother that I loved her and that she meant the world to me. I also wanted her to meet my husband, let her know I was happy and that I had grown up (sorta)!*

*I wish I could have come to Virginia to be with my next door family and also to honor her life. I would have come but living in South Dakota does not allow many choices for travel. I am sure my brother Bob will make up any bad jokes or in the lapse of my loud voice.*

*I will always hold her tightly in my heart with lots of wonderful memories. I love you all.*

*Marnie*

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July 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Hello, So sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs. Haas and my condolences to her family. I think she and her husband gave a wonderful history of Wilton Woods at a GWWCA meeting years ago and it was soooo enlightening and enjoyable too. I will always remember her and Mr. Haas as lively lecturers and historians.

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July 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ To all of Mary Jane's family,  
I am saddened to hear of Mary Jane's passing and also full of joy as I think of her and that most sincere and complete smile of hers. So many wonderful people in Alexandria working to save history and make it live for others, and Mary Jane was one of the most dear of them all! I am delighted that you had so many years of family life together to fully absorb her essence--and from the obituary you wrote, I see that you captured her unique spirit. Mary Jane and George extended their hospitality and friendship to my son and I when we moved to Wilton Woods and then when we moved under most difficult circumstances, Mary Jane was the only person to visit me and say--how can I help? I could not think of a thing, but she insisted and said--what were you going to do next--and then she just took on the job--washing, starching and ironing all the curtains in the houses (there were many) and hanging them in her house until I could resettle. Her generosity and cheer gave me so much when I felt alone. Mary Jane personified good will, grace and goodness.

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July 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM



*“ What a delightful person she is! Always a smile and sincere comment which was so natural for this lady. We always enjoyed the friendship and good conversation she brought with her presence.  
Our condolences for your loss.*

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July 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM



*“ Dear George and family,  
Our condolence for the great loss. We have sweet memory of Mary Jane. You and Mary Jane have always been so kind and generous to us and our children.  
Arnold, Mary, Tina and Michelle Shih*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



*“ Dear Susan, Chris, Patsy, and Theresa  
A great neighbor and a beautiful person - she will be missed.  
With our sincerest condolences  
Diane and Steve Davis*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



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With our sincerest condolences  
Diane and Steve Davis*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Theresa and family,  
Please accept our expression of sympathy with the greatest  
sincerity on the loss of your mother.  
Love and blessings,  
Susan, John, Blair and Evan Jewell*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sue and I greatly enjoyed knowing Mary Jane and George and  
working closely with them in Lyceum Company affairs. Mary Jane  
was a delightful person, a real leader, and a true asset to the whole  
community. We'll miss her, and we're thinking of you all.  
Philip and Susan Brooks  
102 Carnoustie  
Williamsburg, VA 23188*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Haas',  
What a blessing to have such a mother as yours! And testament to  
what a great mother she was, is what a nice family she and your  
father have.  
I look forward to seeing you all this coming week,  
Nan Harvey Flynn*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear George, Theresa, Patsy, Susan and Christopher,

*I can't tell you how saddened I was to hear about Mary Jane's passing. When we lived in Wilton Woods, she was always my first neighborhood go-to mom whenever we were in need of something. She had a warm, generous, light-hearted and welcoming spirit with a gift at putting even the shyest pre-teen at ease. I hope to always remember her easy smile and the lovely home she created, imbued with wondrous collections of history, culture and beauty. My love and grief go out to you all,*

*Robin Purcell*

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July 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Thank You

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July 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ We our very sorry for your loss. Please let us know if there is anything we can help you with .

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July 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Susan, Ted, Teddy, Joey and Tim,  
*I am out of town or I would be attending. She was such a beautiful woman. I am so very sorry for your loss. There really are no words.*  
Love,  
*Heidi*

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July 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM