



Beverly Collyer Ashley

December 12, 1931 - January 17, 2022

Beverly “Bebe” Collyer Ashley, age 90, passed away on Monday, January 17, 2022, at Chester River Manor. She was born in Rock Hall, MD, to Melvin “Trigger” and Gladys (Coppage) Collyer and was the only daughter of four children.

Bebe graduated from Rock Hall High School in 1948 and attended Eaton & Burnett Business College in Baltimore, MD. On February 28, 1953, she married Charles Joseph Ashley, Sr. They made their home at the family homestead on Long Cove in Piney Neck where they raised four children.

Bebe worked locally at Garity Drugstore, Baltimore Business Forms, LaMotte Company, where she was known as one of the Golden Girls, and Helping Hands where she served in the job she loved the most as a compassionate caregiver to many, until a fall and injury in 2014 prevented her from continuing and forced her into retirement.

Bebe was vibrant, spunky, generous (to a fault, if there is such a thing), caring, kind and strong-willed. She would share her opinion whether you wanted it or not (a true Collyer trait); you never had to guess where you stood with her. She was the ultimate devoted and doting wife, mother & grandparent, and an exceptional relative, neighbor and friend. She was extremely social and could strike up a conversation with anyone anywhere; she had the gift of gab,

another Collyer trait. (Her late husband claimed she could talk to a post and get it to talk back.)

She had a keen wit and a zest for life and laughter; in her earlier years, she and her best friend, Rose Beck, were dubbed “Lucy & Ethel.” Bebe loved to decorate (in excess) for the holidays and was a phenomenal cook (especially known for her hand-picked crabmeat & outrageous crabcakes and catering for family & friends). She was an active member of Rock Hall United Methodist Church (RHUMC) where she served on various committees & Boards and participated in bible studies, church programs, events and fundraisers for decades. She loved her Savior, her church & charge, church family and the Rock Hall community, where she served as a true fisher of men/women. She was grateful every day to be blessed with a loving family (both nuclear and extended) and countless friends/friendships that she cherished. She was supportive and encouraging and always willing to lend an ear or a hand. She made everything she did look easy. However, she suffered from FOMAD (Fear of Missing A Deal), as a result, two of her favorite past-times were shopping and “yard-sale-ing” especially with her dear friend, Jean Spence and her cousins, Laura Lee Buckley and Clifford Nelson. Additionally, she loved to marathon watch the Golden Girls on the Hallmark Channel, and befittingly the show was actually playing in the background at the very time she passed away. (Notably she died on what would have been Betty White’s 100th birthday.)

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Bobby, Billy, and Bucky; and her husband, who passed away in January 2006.

Bebe is survived by her children Donna Strong (Robert) of Rock Hall, Joanne Carson, Maria Coakley (Mike), Charles Ashley, Jr. (Susan) of Chestertown; her quasi-daughter, Robin Wood Kurowski (Ed), also of Rock Hall; four grandchildren: Jennifer Zsebedics (Greg), Joseph Ashley, Anna Ashley and

Dustin Broyles; four great-granddaughters, Brittani Fahrman (Michael), Abigail Zsebedics, Ella Zsebedics and Kaylee Broyles (and Cameron Spence whom she loved like her own); and three great-great grandchildren, Sienna, Gemma and Laszlo Fahrman.

While there will be a private graveside service for the family, everyone is invited to a Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 19, 2022, at Rock Hall United Methodist Church where relatives and friends may visit from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with the service immediately following at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Rock Hall United Methodist Church, PO Box 66, Rock Hall, MD 21661 or online at yourrockhall.church/give.

Cemetery Details

Wesley Chapel Cemetery

6179 Rock Hall Road
Rock Hall, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 19. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Rock Hall United Methodist Church
5730 Main Street
Rock Hall, MD

celebration of life

FEB 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Rock Hall United Methodist Church
5730 Main Street
Rock Hall, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 18, 2022 at 10:17 AM



“ *Beverly Collyer Ashley*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Beverly Collyer Ashley*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Beverly Collyer Ashley*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *When it came to my birthday 🎂 she give Money 💰 to spend
And At Easter I would go her home 🏠 and play
The Easter Bunny for her*



Brandon - April 01, 2022 at 05:15 PM



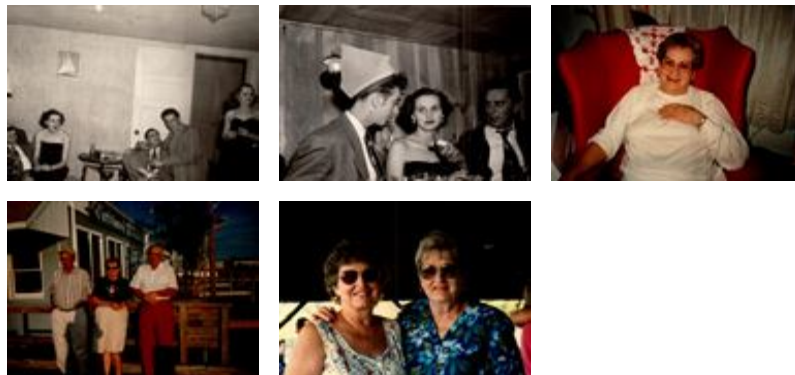
“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 24, 2022 at 10:51 AM



“ 132 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 18, 2022 at 10:16 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss. What a beautiful and heartfelt obituary. I did not know Bebe personally but I have heard enough stories through the years that I feel like I knew her. In reading her obituary I feel like she definitely will live on in all of you as I detected some common threads . My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Melinda Blyman - January 25, 2022 at 12:55 PM

DB

“ *Diane Calloway Baxter lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Diane Calloway Baxter - January 22, 2022 at 01:21 PM

SM

“ *Susan And George Miller lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Susan And George Miller - January 22, 2022 at 02:46 AM



“ *My grandmother Jean Spence & miss BeBe. She will be deeply missed!*



Megan Esper - January 21, 2022 at 05:05 PM

DB

“ Our Dearest Miss Bebe has shared with us many laughs, words of wisdom, and most importantly her faith in God. I always loved coming home on a Saturday night to find Miss Bebe in the driveway dropping off Miss Rose from an all day shopping event!
I will share three important bits of her advice:
-Always add a little green pepper and pineapple to your meatballs.
-Pretty is as Pretty does.
- If Thelma Shriley has made a carmel cake, get a corner piece.
That way you get more frosting!
We love her and miss her but are at peace knowing she's in Heaven with all our loved ones who have gone before her.
Love you all,
Debbie, Greg, Avery and Grace Ann

Deborah Boege - January 21, 2022 at 02:53 PM

MB

“ So many wonderful memories having our cousins right next door. Bebe and her children brought much love and laughter to our days in Piney Neck. She was a wonderful cook, crab picker, caregiver, friend and comedian. We love you all and are grateful for all the love and fun you and your mother shared with us over the years. Love to all, Margaret Black and family

Margaret Black - January 21, 2022 at 01:05 PM

JH

“ Joanne, you and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. I love you, I miss you, and I wish you peace and comfort for the tough days ahead.

Jake Haniffee - January 21, 2022 at 11:56 AM

AG

“ *Annetta L. Graves lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Annetta L. Graves - January 21, 2022 at 09:38 AM

RO

“ *RJ & Kristi Osborn lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



RJ & Kristi Osborn - January 21, 2022 at 08:55 AM

DB

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Debbie Boege - January 20, 2022 at 04:36 PM

DB

“ *3 files added to the album Memories Album*



Debbie Boege - January 20, 2022 at 04:07 PM

LP

“ *Lee Phillips lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Lee Phillips - January 20, 2022 at 03:38 PM

LB

“ *Larry Beck lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Larry Beck - January 20, 2022 at 02:27 PM

MU

“ *Mary Ellen Unruh lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Mary Ellen Unruh - January 20, 2022 at 10:09 AM

WS

“ *My sincerest condolences for an incredibly great loss. Aunt Bebe was an essential part of our childhood growing up. I can still hear her voice, she used to tell me "Wendie, sit up straight or you'll be humped over when you get old". Love and prayers to the family. Wendie*



Wendie Collyer Smith - January 20, 2022 at 10:03 AM

JH

“ Joe And Cheryl (Rodney) Holliday lit a candle
in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Joe and Cheryl (Rodney) Holliday - January 19, 2022 at 05:17 PM

JH

“ So sorry for all our loss. What a wonder person. Cheryl and I loved
her so much. Bebe was more like a big sister to her favorite niece
Cheryl. What wonderful memories we will
have of the times we shared together. Most condolences Donna,
Maria, Joanne, and Charlie Boy. We love you all. Look forward to
sharing stories in February. Joe and Cheryl (Rodney) Holliday.

Joseph Holliday - January 19, 2022 at 05:08 PM

JS

“ Janet Seward lit a candle in memory of
Beverly Collyer Ashley



Janet Seward - January 19, 2022 at 04:07 PM

BJ

“ When Ms. Beebe was in rehab awhile ago, one day she shared with me that when she passes away that "God is going to put her in charge of taking care of the little children", & I recall telling her that she will then be helping my Mom, as that is what she is 'up there' doing. I am quite sure that is just what your Mother is doing right now. My thoughts & prayers are with each of you. May it bring you peace & comfort as you recall precious memories, & celebrate your mother's life well-lived. Take Care, Barb
(Such an amazing cook, too - Ms. Beebe's chicken salad was the best ever!)



Barbara Jacquette - January 19, 2022 at 03:59 PM

BJ

“ Barbara Jacquette lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Barbara Jacquette - January 19, 2022 at 03:36 PM

SM

“ So sorry to hear of Miss Bebee's passing. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayer. She was a special lady and Mom had so much fun with her when they were in rehab together. "HUGS" to you all! Sandy McClary and Ruth Hadaway



Sandy McClary - January 19, 2022 at 02:00 PM

JS

“ Dear Bebe, I don't know when, where, or why, it happened, but it did. We became the Best of friends. We had so much fun when we were together, from sitting at Store Stop killing the flies, buying losing lottery tickets, yard sailing in Media, Pa., the friendly fights at the Christmas bazaar, the hat parade in Rock Hall, the new year's eve visits to Maggie's. We tried to do it all. I never did find out who your favorite son -in- law was? Everyone loved you and a lot of people didn't know your real name was Beverly. You were always looking out for the young and the old, no matter what you were doing. Nobody could pick crabs as good as you. All that I can say is that you were loved and will be missed forever. Love, Jean Spence

Jean Spence - January 19, 2022 at 01:00 PM

PC

“ So sorry to hear of Bebes passing,I remember her from where we worked together.May she rest in peace ,sending hugs and prayers to the family. Peggy comegys

Peggy comegys - January 19, 2022 at 12:28 PM

PC

“ Peggy Comegys lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Peggy comegys - January 19, 2022 at 12:20 PM



“ *Sherrie Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Sherrie Jacobs - January 19, 2022 at 11:23 AM

BC

“ *Butch Coleman lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Butch Coleman - January 19, 2022 at 09:48 AM

MJ

“ *Mark And Sandy Joiner lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Mark and Sandy Joiner - January 19, 2022 at 09:13 AM

BR

“ *Bob And Sandra Rust lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Bob and Sandra Rust - January 19, 2022 at 08:28 AM

GC

“ Gail Kendall Claggett lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Gail Kendall Claggett - January 19, 2022 at 07:36 AM

JV

“ Joey And Joanne Vansant lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Joey and Joanne Vansant - January 19, 2022 at 01:09 AM

CN

“ Chris & Vivian Nordhoff lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Chris & Vivian Nordhoff - January 18, 2022 at 10:38 PM

CE

“ Charles & Donna Edwards sent a virtual gift in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Charles & Donna Edwards - January 18, 2022 at 10:07 PM



“ *Ahh Miss BeBe*

You were like my mother, my advisor and my best friend when worked at Reynolds + Reynolds. We would have our disagreements but it was over with and forgot about in a matter of minutes. I'm really going to miss you my dear friend. Thank you for your advice your knowledge and most of all your friendship. You're in my thoughts and prayers Miss BeBe now go and see Mr. Charles I'm going to miss you
Boomer

Boomer Bozarth - January 18, 2022 at 09:55 PM

KC

“ *Karen Clark lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Karen Clark - January 18, 2022 at 09:32 PM

DH

“ *Denny And Judy Hickman lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Denny and Judy Hickman - January 18, 2022 at 08:55 PM

EL

“ *Ellen lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Ellen - January 18, 2022 at 08:52 PM

DN

“ *We are going to miss you Aunt BeBe. You always had a good story to tell us and a lot of love to share. ❤️*
Ricky, Dawn and family



Dawn and Rick Nordhoff - January 18, 2022 at 08:17 PM

RT

“ *Sending my deepest condolences to the Family of Mrs Bebe*
She will truly be missed by so many



Roni Thomas - January 18, 2022 at 08:09 PM

MU

“ *Marie Usilton lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Marie Usilton - January 18, 2022 at 08:04 PM

BA

“ *My prayers are for Bebe,s wonderful family. She was a wonderful lady and over the years we had some great times. I remember her picking crabs she was one of Rock Halls best. She will be dearly missed ..Betty Ainsworth*



Betty Ainsworth - January 18, 2022 at 07:30 PM

LM

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family of this wonderful woman.*



Lecia Marshner - January 18, 2022 at 07:21 PM

JL

“ *John Larrimore lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



John Larrimore - January 18, 2022 at 07:20 PM

JH

“ *Joan Hatcherson lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Joan Hatcherson - January 18, 2022 at 07:18 PM

DD

“ One of our mothers from our Piney Neck neighborhood. Nothing but good memories. So sorry to hear of her passing and the family is in my thoughts.

Deborah Coleman DuPhily - January 18, 2022 at 07:08 PM

KD

“ Love and prayers being sent to the entire family, but especially to Donna, Joanne, Maria and Charlie Boy. Your mom was a wonderful person who was loved by many. I loved her sarcasm, quick wit and dry sense of humor. She will be missed dearly.



Kim Dean - January 18, 2022 at 06:58 PM

DD

“ Condolences to the family



Denny Dalrymple - January 18, 2022 at 06:04 PM

DN

“ So sorry for your loss. Sending hugs and prayers. 🙏❤️❤️



Debbie &Kevin Nelson - January 18, 2022 at 05:44 PM

DD

“ *Debbie Dalymple lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Debbie Dalymple - January 18, 2022 at 05:28 PM

CF

“ *Connie Fithian lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Connie Fithian - January 18, 2022 at 05:19 PM

BG

“ *I am so sorry to learn of Mrs Bebes passing.i just loved her.. she was such a special lady,giving of herself for her church.always ready to give a helping hand.Mrs.Bebe had a sense of humor and just a loving way to make you laugh.she raised 4 great children and they have many of her characteristics.Donna,JoAnn,Maria and Charlie boy....I hold you in my heart during this sad time....with love to all of you..BettyAnnGlenn*

BettyAnn Glenn - January 18, 2022 at 05:14 PM

KB

“ *Kaye Barnes lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Kaye Barnes - January 18, 2022 at 04:42 PM

SM

“ Susan & George Miller lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



susan & george miller - January 18, 2022 at 04:27 PM

DO

“ Doris Olsen lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Doris Olsen - January 18, 2022 at 03:55 PM

MR

“ Maryann Ruehrmund lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Maryann Ruehrmund - January 18, 2022 at 03:28 PM

MS

“ Marie Spray lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley



Marie Spray - January 18, 2022 at 03:27 PM

MS

My Prayers are with all of the family Miss Bebe was a very special lady.

Marie Spray - January 18, 2022 at 03:28 PM

NH

“ *Nancy Hubbard lit a candle in memory of Beverly Collyer Ashley*



Nancy Hubbard - January 18, 2022 at 03:24 PM