



Charlotte Smith Bode

May 28, 1920 - May 12, 2021

Charlotte S. Bode, born on May 28, 1920, in Murray, KY, passed away on May 12, 2021, in Chestertown, MD.

Charlotte was the daughter of the late Dewitt Talmadge and Emma Meador Watkins. She graduated from Redford High School, Detroit, MI, in the Class of 1938. She then received her BA Degree in 1942 from Rockford College, Rockford, IL. She went on to receive her MA in 1943 and PHD in history from the University of Chicago in 1953. Charlotte taught at Iowa State College, Rockford College, and then most of her career at the University of Maryland, College Park. In 1944, she married Gayle S. Smith of Chicago, IL, and they had two children. This marriage later ended in divorce. She then married Carl Bode of College Park, MD.

Charlotte was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Chestertown, MD, League of Women Voters, Prince George's County Board, State Constitution Campaign in 1968, Speakers Bureau, and the Democratic Party County Platform Committee in 1966.

Charlotte was devoted to the life of the mind and to responsible civic engagement, as well as to her family. Even at the end of her one hundred years, Charlotte could find "le mot juste" for situations both tough and tender, and was beloved for her wisdom, compassion and self-deprecating humor.

She is survived by a daughter, the Rev. Judy Smith Young of Gettysburg, PA; a son, Anthony Gordon Smith of Snohomish, WA; a stepdaughter, Carolyn Bode of Santa Monica, CA; and two grandchildren, Scott Young of Washington, DC, and Mark Young of Odenton, MD.

She was pre-deceased by two stepdaughters, Janet and Barbara Bode. In-person services will be private. Further information is available at www.fhnfuneralhome.com. Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the League of Women Voters.

Cemetery Details

St. Pauls Cemetery (Kent County)

7600 Sandy Bottom Road
Chestertown, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Charlotte Smith Bode*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 20, 2021 at 10:33 AM



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Charlotte Smith Bode*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 17, 2021 at 01:04 PM



“ *Charlotte Smith Bode*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Charlotte Smith Bode*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Charlotte Smith Bode*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Suzanne Jackson lit a candle in memory of Charlotte Smith Bode*



Suzanne Jackson - May 20, 2021 at 08:16 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 19, 2021 at 09:36 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charlotte Smith Bode.*



May 17, 2021 at 10:55 PM

MZ

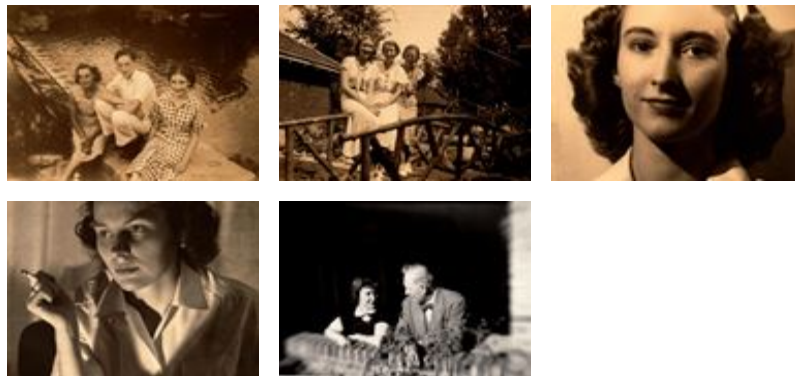
“Charlotte was one of the people in my life who have been not just a wonderful friend but a generous mentor. I can't count the number of times that I was able to turn to her for comfort and a lot of wisdom. I met her when I first came to the University of Maryland and our offices were next to each other, so our friendship went back a long time. She was so smart, incredibly modest for someone so brilliant--and she WAS brilliant, a word I don't use loosely--and she was so knowledgeable about so many things--politics, civics, American history, human relations, how to change the filter on my furnace, how to relight the hot water boiler, how to replant hostas, what kind of birds were nesting in my holly bush, how to survive life's setbacks. Thanks to Charlotte, I did not remain completely useless around the house, and all of her helpful hints and guidance came with humor and not a bit of judgment. I'll always cherish her memory, as one of the finest people I've ever known, as one of the best and truest friends I've ever had. I suspect that quite a lot of people feel as I do. Judy and Tony, a lot of us loved your mother, too.

My condolences, Madeline Zilfi

Madeline Zilfi - May 17, 2021 at 10:27 PM



“ 105 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 17, 2021 at 01:01 PM

JL

“ I have lots of fond memories of Charlotte Bode, who was a great friend to me and my high-school peer group early in the 1970s. She was always intellectually engaged and never talked down to us.

One amusing moment came later when I took her class in American colonial history at the University of Maryland. I wrote an essay for my midterm exam that Charlotte took a shine to, and she decided to read it to the class. I then got to writhe as she repeatedly stopped and stumbled as she tried to decipher my terrible handwriting.

She was a wonderful woman, and I'll miss her terribly.

Jeff Looney

Jeff Looney - May 15, 2021 at 05:07 PM

SJ

“ Suzanne Jackson lit a candle in memory of Charlotte Smith Bode



Suzanne Jackson - May 13, 2021 at 01:45 PM