



Deborah Jean McCandless Nevins

October 2, 1939 - January 14, 2025

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Deborah “Debbie” Jean McCandless Nevins, age 85, on January 14, 2025 in Chestertown, MD. Debbie was born on October 2, 1939. She was raised in Merion, Pennsylvania on the Episcopal Academy Campus, where she first gained her love for tennis, playing matches in the backyard with her father. Debbie’s love of boating began early with family cruises through the inland waterways and to the Caribbean islands. Debbie attended Lower Merion High School where she met her future husband, Charles T. Nevins, II (Tiff). She attended Centenary College in Hackettstown, NJ. Following college she worked as a secretary for Whitman Chocolates and then as a co-owner of the family heating oil business, McCandless Fuels, in Havertown and Narberth, Pennsylvania. Gladwyne, PA is where Debbie and Tiff called home and raised their two children. Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church was central to their lives, particularly through the musical excellence in both the adult and children’s choirs. Debbie sang in choruses and choirs all of her life, traveled Europe with her college choir, participated in the family legacy of Savoy, a Gilbert and Sullivan production company, brought joy to nursing home residents with traveling troupe “Larks”, among many other groups. Debbie and Tiff shared a love for the New Jersey shore, enjoying their bayside cottage in Avalon where boating and water activities were central, though equally enjoyed for competitive tennis. In her retirement, Debbie was a long-time Chester River Chorale and Rock Hall Garden Club member. She also ardently supported the National

Music Festival and the Main Stay Stage in Rock Hall.

She is survived by sister Carol McCandless of Royalton VT; daughter Piper Jo Nevins and spouse Pat Chagnon of Montpelier, VT; son Charles T Nevins, III, and his wife Nicole Nevins of Nassau, Bahamas; granddaughters Hope Nevins and Charlotte Nevins of Los Angeles, CA.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Charles T. Nevins, II, her parents Andrew F. McCandless and Edith Boericke McCandless, and her beloved yellow labs, Donner, Honey Bear I, Honey Bear II, Chappy and Dory.

Funeral services will be held on March 8th, 2025, 1:00pm at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church located at 101 N Cross Street in Chestertown, MD. Extended family and friends are invited to call on the family at the church hall immediately following services for refreshments.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to:
National Music Festival

<https://nationalmusic.us/get-involved/>

National Music Festival P. O. Box 284, Chestertown, MD 21620.

Chester River Chorale

<https://www.chesterriverchorale.org/support/support-crc/>

P.O. Box 461, Chestertown, MD 21620

The Mainstay

<https://mainstayrockhall.org/support/>

P.O.Box 238, Rock Hall, MD 216

Previous Events

celebration of life

MAR 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
101 N Cross St
Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 778-3477

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Slideshow



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 07, 2025 at 03:52 PM

RF

Great times together with Tif and Debbi, following Parris Island (1961) for many years on visits at Merrilands with the family on our summer trips down to Sandbridge, Virginia, from our home In Mount Kisco, New York. One of our earliest memories was skimming along the water in Debonair with infant Piper bouncing in her bassinet in the bow having the usual great time, as was always the case with the seafaring Nevins family.

Peggy and I always considered our times with Tif and Debbi to be highlights of each year, with special members of our extended family for many years to come into the mid 2010's.

Semper Fi! - to all! Roger (and always for Peggy) Froehlich

Roger Froehlich - April 05 at 06:01 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Deborah Jean McCandless Nevins.



March 05, 2025 at 04:15 PM

JL

“ *John M Larrimore lit a candle in memory of Deborah Jean McCandless Nevins*



John M Larrimore - March 03, 2025 at 04:42 PM

JL

I enjoyed chats with Miss Nevins and Commodore (aka Dory) at the dog park. A very classy lady.

John M Larrimore - March 03, 2025 at 04:43 PM

KB

“ *Kaye Barnes lit a candle in memory of Deborah Jean McCandless Nevins*



Kaye Barnes - February 28, 2025 at 03:05 PM

SJ

“ *Suzanne Jackson sent a virtual gift in memory of Deborah Jean McCandless Nevins*



Suzanne Jackson - February 26, 2025 at 09:57 AM