



Ellen Thomas Gale

January 4, 1934 - April 11, 2019

Ellen Thomas Gale of Chestertown, MD, passed away on Thursday, April 11, 2019. She was 85.

Ellen was the daughter of the late Merritt-Page Beck Foster of Chestertown, MD, and the late Mr. Robert Wright Thomas, Jr., of Centreville, MD. She was a descendant of many of the earliest settlers of Kent County. She was born in Hartford, CT, on January 4, 1934, where she lived until 1948, when, following the death of her father in 1938, her mother remarried to Charles F. Foster and moved to Sarasota, FL. Following the death of her step-father a year later, the family moved to Chestertown to reside with Mrs. Foster's mother.

Mrs. Gale was a member of St. Mark's Church in Venice, FL and, St. Paul's, Kent County, MD. Ellen graduated from Oldfields School, Sparks, MD in 1952 and from Washington College, in Chestertown in 1956.

She was preceded in death by her beloved second husband, Ben P. Gale; her beloved stepdaughter, Mary, known to all as Meg; and her late brother, Robert W. Thomas, III, of Sarasota, FL. Mrs. Gale was Commissioner of Natural Resources under former Governor Spiro T. Agnew and one time chairman of the Board of Kent and Queen Anne's County Hospital as well as Chairman of the Kent County United Fund.

She is survived by two stepsons, Benjamin Gale of Upperville, VA, and Thomas Hoyt Gale of Centreville, MD; her eldest son, Christopher Thomas Gale of Fallston, MD; the son of her beloved first husband, Robert T. Pickett, Jr., of Washington, DC; and her two younger children by her second husband, William Page Gale and Ellen Louise Gale, both of Chestertown. In addition, she has 13 grandchildren, two of whom preceded her in death; eight great-grandchildren; and at least two great-great grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Patricia Thomas of Sarasota, FL; her two children; and their children and grandchildren.

Ellen was an avid golfer and played at Chester River Yacht and Country Club where she was a long time member of the nine hole circuit. She also played frequently at Mission Valley Golf & Country Club in Nokomis, FL, where she and her second husband were among the founding members. She was for many years a member of the Kent and Queen Anne's County Hospital Ladies' Auxiliary where she was instrumental in organizing and operating the annual Christmas Shop. She was also proud of her volunteer work at St. Paul's.

She will be best remembered by all who knew her for her infectious laugh, her sense of dry humor, her unfailing generosity, and her hospitality to all who spent a night under her roof.

A service will be held on Saturday, May 4, at 11 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 7579 Sandy Bottom Road in Chestertown, MD. Interment will be in St. Paul's Cemetery, following the service.

It was her wish that, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to the Ben P. Gale Founders Fund at Kent School.

Cemetery Details

St. Pauls Cemetery (Kent County)

7600 Sandy Bottom Road
Chestertown, MD

Previous Events

Service

MAY 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Church Cemetery (Kent)
7579 Sandy Bottom Rd
Chestertown, MD 21620

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellen Thomas Gale*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Ellen Thomas Gale*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Ellen Thomas Gale*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Know that your family is in the hearts and minds of the Kent School community at this time. Nancy Mugele*

Nancy Mugele - May 03, 2019 at 03:36 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ellen Thomas Gale.*



May 02, 2019 at 02:44 PM



“ 5 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 02, 2019 at 06:53 AM



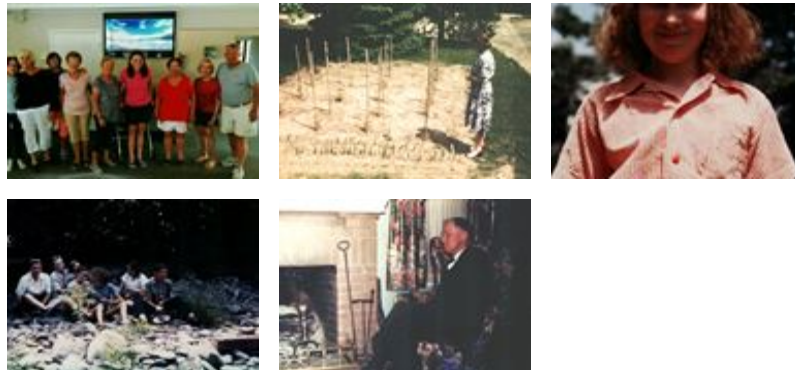
“ 107 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - May 01, 2019 at 12:26 PM



“ 15 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



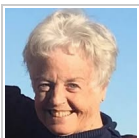
Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - April 25, 2019 at 09:31 AM

JS

“ Janet Seward lit a candle in memory of Ellen Thomas Gale



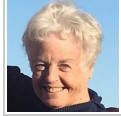
Janet Seward - April 25, 2019 at 05:09 AM



“ Cathy Raphael lit a candle in memory of Ellen Thomas Gale



Cathy Raphael - April 23, 2019 at 04:14 PM



For Willy and Kim and Ellen - my deepest sympathy! What a terrible thing to lose one's MOM!! Special hugs from Cathy & Ben Raphael and of course from Skip (and JoJo sends his sympathy, too!) Heaven is such a wonderful place that it is really a reward - but especially hard, still, to lose a beloved mom!!! xoxo

Cathy Raphael - April 23, 2019 at 04:19 PM

SN

“ *Susan Sutton Nickerson lit a candle in memory of Ellen Thomas Gale*



Susan Sutton Nickerson - April 14, 2019 at 01:16 PM

LS

“ *Liz Smith lit a candle in memory of Ellen Thomas Gale*



Liz Smith - April 14, 2019 at 07:10 AM