



Jane Beckett-Donohue

February 1, 1946 - July 31, 2024

Jane Beckett-Donohue, of Grasonville, MD, passed away at Compass Regional Hospice in Centreville, MD, on July 31, 2024.

Jane was born on February 1, 1946, in New Orleans, Louisiana. She was the daughter of the late Robert and Erma Walker. She grew up in Louisiana, South Carolina, and then moved to Maryland in 1958. As a child, she lived in Baghdad Iraq, for a year while her father was on detail to the United Nations.

Jane attended The University of Maryland where she earned her Bachelor's degree in English and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1967.

Jane began her 27-year career with Anne Arundel County Public Schools as a secretary at Crofton Elementary School. Once her children moved on to middle school, she accepted a position at the Central Office in the English Department.

In 1986 Jane became the first spokeswoman for the Board of Education. Over the 18 years in this position, she worked under several Superintendents where she made a huge impact with her dedication, knowledge, and work ethic.

Jane retired in 2004 to spend more time with her family. She continued to

volunteer and consult for the College Board after her retirement, and she also served on the Board of Compass Regional Hospice & Kent Island Yacht Club.

Jane loved being a mom and a Grammy to her children and grandchildren. Jane's greatest blessings were her children: Adam Heinze of Edgewater, MD, Heather Ravanbakhsh of Baltimore, MD, Lisa Dring (Larry) of Pasadena MD; her grandchildren, Trey Dring, Ava Ravanbakhsh, and Bryce Ravanbakhsh. In addition to her children and grandchildren, she leaves behind a sister, Martha (Bunny) Hood (Robert).

In addition to spending time with her family, Jane had a love for cooking/baking, sports, bacon, Miller Lite, Utz potato chips, playing Scrabble with her sister, volunteering, fishing/crabbing, bird watching, and sunsets.

Jane's family and friends will remember her humor, loyalty, generosity, and her love for life.

Jane is preceded in death by her husbands James Doyle (2006), Ronald Beckett (2000), and Bartholomew Donohue, III (2012).

A celebration of life will take at the Kent Island Yacht Club 117 Yacht Club Drive Chester MD 21619 on Saturday January 4th from 2-4pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to:
Compass Regional Hospice 255 Comet Dr., Centreville, Maryland 21617

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 4. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Kent Island Yacht Club
117 Yacht Club Drive
Chester, MD

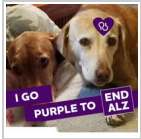
Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jane Beckett-Donohue*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - December 14, 2024 at 03:17 PM



“ *Missing you* 🥰



Karen Meiklejohn - November 11, 2024 at 10:44 PM



“ *Karen Meiklejohn lit a candle in memory of Jane Beckett-Donohue*



Karen Meiklejohn - October 30, 2024 at 06:41 PM

KM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Jane's passing. She was a wonderful person and she had a deep love for her children and grandchildren. My heartfelt condolences go out to her family.



Kathleen McCann - September 14, 2024 at 03:00 PM

KM

“ Karen Meiklejohn lit a candle in memory of Jane Beckett-Donohue



Karen Meiklejohn - September 02, 2024 at 10:10 PM

GM

“ In 1958, I was a fifth grader at Adelphi Elementary School, and I was named as a “friend/guide” for our new classmate, Jane Kaye Walker. We became fast friends and went on to many junior high and high school (High Point High School) adventures. We were cheerleaders together and edited the High Point year book — which involved many late nights in her bedroom sorting through thumbnail photos and copy. We remained friends through college, and my daughter’s middle name is Jane, in honor of her. We lost contact over the years, but I will never forget one of the best friends I could ever have. We laughed hard, worked hard, and accomplished a lot together. I was so lucky to have her in my life! My condolences to her friends and family.

Gwenn Marie - August 19, 2024 at 01:26 PM

AL

“ *ASHLEY LEWIS lit a candle in memory of Jane Beckett-Donohue*



ASHLEY LEWIS - August 19, 2024 at 11:35 AM

M(

“ *Jane was the impetus for my 20-plus year career. She was a tireless, compassionate leader who treated her team like family. With the perfect balance of wit and wisdom, the most important lessons I learned from her had nothing to do with work - they were all about love. I am so grateful for her indelible imprint on my life.*

Maneka Monk (Wade) - August 15, 2024 at 07:28 AM

BQ

“ *Jane and I worked together at Crofton Elementary School. I shall always hold precious memories of Jane. Her kindness as I entered the office, her smile, her understanding of issues and her sensitivity in answering, She was a sweet lady. My prayers are with her family for comfort as they walk through this difficult time. May God restore your joy as you remember the precious times shared. Love, Bessie Queen*

Bessie Queen - August 09, 2024 at 02:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jane Beckett-Donohue.*



August 09, 2024 at 01:08 PM

JT

“ Jane was a complex and interesting person with a lot of compassion. The world is poorer for her loss. Although I did not see her often after I left the board of education, I feel her absence deeply. I know she is in a good place, because she earned it.

Joe Thompson - August 07, 2024 at 03:30 PM

ME

“ Jane was very kind and we connected on art and Miller Lite. She always had something positive to say about the paintings I would post of Facebook. She was very thoughtful , sending gifts through the mail. I wish I had known she was originally from New Orleans! We could have talked for hours about that subject. She will be so missed. My deepest, heart felt condolences to her family and friends.

Mike Edgar

Michael Edgar - August 06, 2024 at 10:49 AM



“ One of the nicest and most helpful people you'd ever meet. She had a tremendous impact on so, so many. I got the pleasure of working with her in two different roles -- at AACPS and my prior position at Capital Gazette. A consummate professional who was firm but would always help to the greatest extent possible. I would not be where I am without Jane. Rest in peace, my friend. - Bob Mosier

Bob Mosier - August 06, 2024 at 07:46 AM

WD

“ We are heartbroken to hear of Jane’s passing. Jane’s presence and grand smile lit up the room....gentle, kind and very loving. Our deepest sympathies to the entire family. Jane is truly “resting in peace”.

Walter & Doreen

Walter & Doreen - August 06, 2024 at 06:00 AM

BZ

“ I’m so sorry to hear of the passing of Jane. I spent many wonderful times in her company. She was a lovely lady and will be missed very much.

Bill Zimmerman - August 05, 2024 at 08:16 PM