



## Jeddie Parker DeCoursey

November 24, 1918 - September 14, 2018

Jeddie Parker DeCoursey of Quaker Neck, Chestertown, MD, died on September 14, 2018, at her home she was 99.

She was born in Dillon, SC, in the town and county that was named after her great grandfather, J.W. Dillon, who granted the land. She was the daughter of the late Albert and Jeddie David Parker. A graduate of Winthrop University Class of 1940, she taught school and later worked as secretary for the war effort with the U.S. Air Force during WW II in South Carolina. During this period of her life, she met and married John Barclay DeCoursey, they lived in New Jersey briefly before moving to Kinsale Farm in Quaker Neck, Chestertown, MD.

Mrs. DeCoursey taught typing and business education with Kent County High School along with Rock Hall, Galena, and Chestertown schools. She retired in the late 80's. She was a member of Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Rock Hall Yacht Club, Chester River Yacht and Country Club, The Embroiders Guild of America, and The Olde Kent Quilters. She cherished her time as a volunteer with Kent and QA Hospital and was an original and founding member of Kent and Queen Anne's Rescue Squad. She enjoyed quilting, needlework, and playing bridge with her Wednesday card group.

She is survived by a son, Albert Parker DeCoursey of Milwaukee, WI; a

daughter, Ethel Elliott of Chestertown, MD, along with four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and her husband, she was predeceased by a sister, the late Harriett Goodman in 2007.

A public visitation will be held on Thursday, September 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, 130 Speer Rd, Chestertown MD 21620. Graveside services will be held privately at St. Paul's Kent Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Kent and QA Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 126, Chestertown, MD 21620.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Pauls Cemetery (Kent County)

7600 Sandy Bottom Road  
Chestertown, MD

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 20. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chestertown Location  
130 Speer Road  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
(410) 778-0055  
[info@fhfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@fhfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey* ”



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - September 18, 2018 at 03:15 PM



“ *Jeddie Parker DeCoursey* ”

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



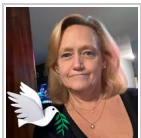
“ *Jeddie Parker DeCoursey* ”

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January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Jeddie Parker DeCoursey* ”

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January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Robin Pletzer sent a virtual gift in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey* ”



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**Robin Pletzer** - September 26, 2018 at 07:00 PM

EE

*Thank you*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 29, 2018 at 08:31 PM

EE

“ 1 file added to the album *Family, Friends and Memories*



**Ethel Elliott** - September 23, 2018 at 04:49 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey.*



September 21, 2018 at 10:18 AM

DA

“ *Debbie Annand lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Debbie Annand** - September 20, 2018 at 08:53 AM

HB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Heather Beaven** - September 20, 2018 at 06:27 AM

AG

“Saddened to read the news, however, At 99, Holy Mother of God, She was certainly blessed to live a fulfilled life. With saying that, with a little humor, I say this; Ms. Decoursey was one of the finest ladies I had ever met. As a teen ager, She taught me Typing and Business at kent county high school. As a VERY hard headed student, and somewhat troubled, Ms. Decoursey, seemingly strict as she was, Mentored me, Taught me, and was so kind to me. She had a heart, a personality and a very loving soul.

A lesson learned; One day in class, as I sat in the front, I was rambling and talking with another classmate. Ms. Decoursey Scolded me in front of the class, I was so embarrassed and humiliated, as she was writing on the chalk board, I took out my pocket knife and cut the return carriage cable on my IBM Selectric Typewriter.. As I was sitting in the next class after hers, she came to the class and asked the teacher if she could see me in the hall. She looked up at me and said that she knew what I did, and that she wanted me to admit what I did. I stood there, hung my head as she said to me, Arthur, If you lie to me, I will go to the principle and you will pay for the damage to the type writer, If you tell me what I already know as the truth, this will be forgotten. I looked at her and told her what I did and that she upset me in class, and that I was sorry. Do you know that Ms. Decoursey hugged me, and gave me a hint of a smile and told me to get back in class. As I walked to my seat, I was fighting tears, as I couldn't believe that she let me off the hook. I learned a huge lesson that day,

Over the years, while cruising the river, I would look up at her property, at that red caboose and smile. I missed her then, and I miss her now. God bless Ms. Decoursey, God be with her family during what I am sure is a trying time. Your Mom, Our friend, will be missed however with some really cool memories.

Arthur Godfrey, Edgewater Florida ( formerly Rock Hall, MD

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Arthur Godfrey - September 19, 2018 at 12:05 PM

TM

*Arthur, I was moved by your story! I'm pretty sure we were classmates. Thank you for sharing it with us. She sure was a special lady. She realized the more powerful lesson was truth and forgiveness. That smile was love, Arthur, but you already knew that.*

*To Mrs. DeCoursey's family, thank you for sharing her with us. I was another of the not-so-good kids in her class, who also had the good fortune of receiving her charm.*

*May God bless our teachers and their families, and to Mrs. DeCoursey, may God bless, rest and comfort your soul.*

*Tom McGlinn*

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**Tom McGlinn** - September 19, 2018 at 02:00 PM

EE

*Arthur - What a beautiful tribute and remembrance of my mom. Your story truly reflects how my mom cared for, and mentored, her students. She taught values above all else, but she certainly was excited when her students learned the typing skills she was trying to teach! Mom had pride in helping others and your story is truly a reflection of the kind, caring and thoughtful person she was. Thank you for sharing this. It brings us great comfort to know how much she was loved.*

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**Ethel Elliott** - September 20, 2018 at 08:28 AM

AG

*You are more than welcome, and by the way..... to this day, people cant believe at how stealthily I type at my computer key-board. I Think, if I can remember, 75 words a minute were really good, I've never tested myself, but sure I am up around 115. Which now, I'm going to have to test myself. lol.*

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**Arthur Godfrey** - September 22, 2018 at 09:26 AM

BL

“ *Brenda Lyons lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



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**Brenda Lyons** - September 18, 2018 at 08:24 PM

BL

*Mrs. DeCoursey was a good teacher and someone who gave so much to her community. During class she was firm and expected everyone to be successful and so I think most of us tried to live up to her expectation. She had a smile and a twinkle in her eye that I will always remember.*

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**Brenda Lyons** - September 18, 2018 at 08:27 PM

ML

“ *Meg Lynch lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



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**Meg Lynch** - September 18, 2018 at 04:09 PM

ML

*She was my best friend and partner in crime. She was always ready to go and we sure did go! No matter where we went we always had a good time and lots of laughs. I wii always cherish those wonderful memories.*

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**Meg Lynch** - September 18, 2018 at 04:23 PM



“ 104 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - September 18, 2018 at 01:48 PM

AS

“ On behalf of the Officers and members of the Kent-Queen Anne's Rescue Squad we wish to extend our sincere sympathy to the DeCoursey family. Mrs Decoursey was before my time at the Squad but I have heard many stories about her working with the Auxiliary ladies doing bake sales etc. to raise money during the early years of the Rescue Squad. I also did not have her as a teacher but heard lots about her classes back in 1975. They do not make them like her anymore even though that is what we need today. We need strong willed teachers to prepare our students for the tough world we live in. Mrs. DeCoursey you can rest from all your teaching lessons you gave to the many groups you cherished so greatly. God Bless you!!!!

Allan W. Schauber  
Chief of Dept.

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Allan Schauber - September 18, 2018 at 10:35 AM

EE

*What a beautiful tribute. My mom loved this community and she was passionate about volunteering and teaching. It means so much to us to know that she was so loved by others. Thank you!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 18, 2018 at 03:00 PM

LP

*Miss Jeddie was a legend in her own time. I never knew her until we moved here in 2001 - she was a long-time member of the Rock Hall Yacht Club, and the "young people" there always talked about her with something approaching awe and deep respect. She was famous for attending stockholders' meetings at the club with her book of Roberts Rules of Order in hand. I loved chance meetings with her around town - she was such a delight, with a wonderful sense of humor. She will be missed - and never forgotten. Rest In Peace, Miss Jeddie.*

*Linda Parry*

**Linda Parry** - September 19, 2018 at 02:29 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey.*



September 18, 2018 at 07:02 AM

CH

“ *One of the best teachers....kind of strict but when she laughed it was the best!!!*



**Christy** - September 17, 2018 at 08:25 PM

TJ

“ Tom And Nancy Lee Jewell lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Tom and Nancy Lee Jewell - September 17, 2018 at 07:01 PM

EE

“ 11 files added to the album Family, Friends and Memories



Ethel Elliott - September 17, 2018 at 04:02 PM

ML

One of our many trips. We went to Argyle NY and made draperies for our friend Elna and her husband 's home. We promised not to tell any tales of our stay with Elna and Marty. We did have a lot of fun!

Meg Lynch - September 18, 2018 at 04:32 PM

EE

“ 1 file added to the album KCHS - teacher



Ethel Elliott - September 17, 2018 at 03:54 PM

CF

“ *Chester River Health Foundation lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Chester River Health Foundation** - September 17, 2018 at 08:43 AM

EE

*Thank you for sharing this.*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 17, 2018 at 08:28 AM

CF

*In addition to being a long-time Volunteer, Jeddie was also a founding member of the Chester River Health Foundation (formerly Kent & Queen Anne's Hospital Foundation). We could always count on her thoughtful insights and wit. RIP, Jeddie!*

**Chester River Health Foundation** - September 17, 2018 at 08:45 AM

EE

“ *2 files added to the album Family, Friends and Memories*



**Ethel Elliott** - September 17, 2018 at 08:25 AM

KM

“ *I had the pleasure of having Mrs. Decoursey for 3 years at KCHS. Oh how I loved her. Taught me to type fast and correctly. What a special lady.*

**Karen Miller** - September 17, 2018 at 05:37 AM

ZB

“ Ms. Jessie gave me beautiful dog, Tasha in about 1979. A gorgeous Golden Retriever. We named her Langford Bay's Natasha. She was born on Langford Bay. We enjoyed her for many years. Ms. Jessie would not take any money for her. Just wanted her to have a wonderful home. I was always grateful to her. Tasha's ashes go in with mine when I pass. Thank you Ms. Jessie. Rest in peace. Your soul was dear to me. Zoa Ann



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Zoa Ann Beasley - September 16, 2018 at 10:21 PM

EE

“ 17 files added to the album Family, Friends and Memories



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Ethel Elliott - September 16, 2018 at 08:34 PM

MU

“ Marie Usilton lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



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Marie Usilton - September 16, 2018 at 07:23 PM

EE

“ 1 file added to the album *Chester River Hospital Center Volunteer*



Ethel Elliott - September 16, 2018 at 05:50 PM

EE

“ 3 files added to the album *Needlework - EGA*



Ethel Elliott - September 16, 2018 at 05:49 PM

EE

“ 1 file added to the album *Worton HS 1977-1978*



Ethel Elliott - September 16, 2018 at 05:48 PM

EE

“ 1 file added to the album *Waterfowl Festival - Volunteered 1987 - 2011 and never missed a year!*



Ethel Elliott - September 16, 2018 at 04:44 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey.*



September 16, 2018 at 04:39 PM

SH

“ *Sally Harding lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



sally harding - September 16, 2018 at 08:54 AM

SH

*Such a lovely lady, an inspiration!--wonderful grandmother, always ready to contribute to the pre-k classroom---blessings and prayers to the family*

sally harding - September 16, 2018 at 08:57 AM

EE

*Thank you, Sally. Mom loved doing things for Kent School and she always enjoyed being with the children!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 16, 2018 at 12:07 PM

ML

“ *Matt Larrimore lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Matt Larrimore** - September 16, 2018 at 08:15 AM

PC

“ *Mrs. DeCoursey taught a lot of us how to type. I ran into her many years after I had graduated high school and got a chance to thank her and to let her know that typing was the main skill that I use more than any other. We had a good chuckle over that. Will remember her with fond memories. Prayers to her family.*



**Pamela M Coursey** - September 16, 2018 at 07:59 AM

PM

“ *Pam Marvel lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Pam Marvel** - September 15, 2018 at 09:56 PM

DH

“ Donna Hollett lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Donna Hollett - September 15, 2018 at 07:26 PM

DH

Mrs. DeCoursey was my typing teacher at KCHS. She was tough and she got her point across. I can hear her now saying "fingers on the home row". She taught me so much.  
Donna Mills Hollett Class of 1974.

Donna Hollett - September 15, 2018 at 07:30 PM

EE

Thank you for sharing this. My mom always enjoyed hearing from former students and knowing that she had made a difference

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 08:07 PM

DH

“ Donna Hollingsworth lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Donna Hollingsworth - September 15, 2018 at 05:31 PM

DH

Class of 1975

Donna Hollingsworth - September 15, 2018 at 05:32 PM

EE

Thank you. We appreciate your thoughtfulness

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 05:37 PM

LS

“ Louise Hendrickson Stonesifer lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Louise Hendrickson Stonesifer - September 15, 2018 at 05:09 PM

NC

“ When the Olde Kent Quilt Guild needed white gloves for use at our quilt show, Jeddi went above and beyond to get us some nice ones and we all appreciated her efforts, and the beauty of her hand work. Rest in peace, dear. Nancy Caldwell

NANCY C CALDWELL - September 15, 2018 at 05:00 PM

EE

Thank you! Mom always helping out in any way that she could. She loved her quilting and needlework friends and we love all of the beautiful things she made.

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 05:36 PM

EE

“ 2 files added to the album Special Friends



Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 04:18 PM

EE

“ 9 files added to the album Jeddie - oldies but goodies!



Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 04:17 PM

FM

*Words are not adequate to express remembrances of a woman who gave so much to her friends and her community. She was filled with compassion and love for those in need and was never too busy to offer a helping hand. She will be missed.*

*Fay Miller*

Fay Miller - September 15, 2018 at 06:57 PM

EE

*Thank you for sharing this! Mom was such a generous person and she loved everyone with the same passion, She always loved helping others in any way she could. I remember she used to stay up all night making basketball uniforms for the whole girl's basketball team! I especially remember the madress ones!*

Ethel Elliott - September 16, 2018 at 07:22 AM

JS

“ *I took 9th grade typing in Mrs. Decoursey's class. She was tough but I learned a lot and even to this day when coworkers see me type they ask how I can type that fast! I've thought of her many times. Thank you Mrs. Decoursey for teaching so many students how to type and sometimes how to behave! Rest In Peace.*

Judy Smith - September 15, 2018 at 03:47 PM

EE

*Thank you for sharing your memory of my mom. She loved teaching and she was always so proud of her students!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 04:28 PM

JS

*You could tell she was happy once you "got it". Prayers to you and your family. She was truly one of the great teachers in Kent County, an icon.*

**Judy Smith** - September 15, 2018 at 04:36 PM

BF

*Peace be with the family as they say their final "See you later". She truly was an effective teacher. I went on to college to earn my degree as a medical transcriptionist, working for many D.C. hospitals & universities. Typing was my most used skill. Thank you, Mrs. Decoursey. Peace.*

**Bev Foreman** - September 16, 2018 at 01:30 AM

KD

*“Mrs. DeCoursey was also my typing teacher 40 some years ago. She was a hard nut, but she made us learn and I loved her. Little did I know then, how much I would need that skill in the computer era, which I knew nothing about. My love and prayers go out to her family*

**Kim Rollison Dean** - September 15, 2018 at 03:44 PM

EE

*Thank you so much. Mom was always so proud of her students!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 03:51 PM

PC

“ I have fond memories of Jeddie and her sister, Harriet, in the early 80's, as they visited my needlework shop on their way to our classes at Danish American Days in Pawley's Island, SC. She was a delightful Southern Lady who loved her needlework. My condolences to her family.

Pat Carson - September 15, 2018 at 03:31 PM

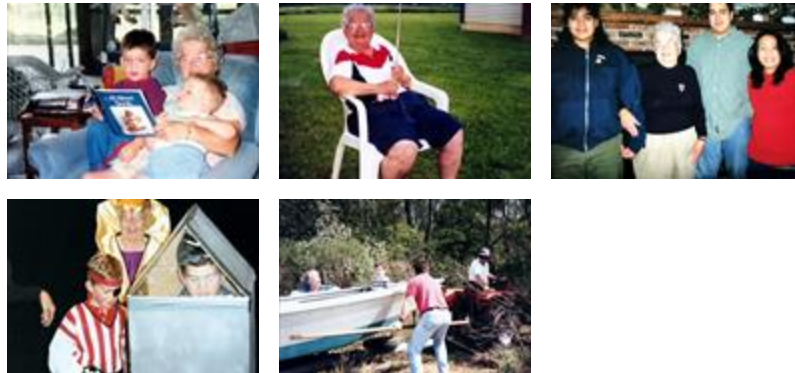
EE

Thank you - Mom and Aunt Harriett both really enjoyed their needlework adventures! Did you see my wedding dress that Aunt Harriett embroidered for me?

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:53 PM

EE

“ 20 files added to the album Family, Friends and Memories



Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:31 PM

DN

“ Debbie And Bob Nickerson lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Debbie and Bob Nickerson - September 15, 2018 at 03:23 PM

EE

*Thank you*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 03:53 PM



“ *As a child, I learned to type the wrong way. Boy, did Mrs. DeCoursey try to teach my the right way. She did not succeed..and til this day, I still type fast, but the wrong way. But, as anyone who took her class knows...there is no way that I did not learn anything! I remember her well...fantastic teacher.*

**Janise Whelan** - September 15, 2018 at 03:08 PM

EE

*My mom loved teaching and she was always so proud of her students.*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 03:54 PM

LM

“ *I took a typing class with her over 40 years ago so I could type my own papers. I think of her every time I see some one hunting and pecking on the computer keys and I am typing away. Little did I know at the time she taught me a great life skill!!*

**Lee Ann Rice Myers** - September 15, 2018 at 02:34 PM

EE

*Mom always loved meeting up with former students and knowing that she made a positive difference in their lives!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 03:54 PM

SS

“ Ms DeCoursey was my typing at KCHS. I can still hear her say Stop, Stop after the typing test when we would keep typing. I never considered myself a great typeset but I know I got my first office job because of what I learned in her class. That job lead me to a career with the federal government that has last more then 34 years and counting.

Thank You Ms. DeCoursey!

Sharon Smith-Lunn Class of '78

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Sharon Smith-Lunn - September 15, 2018 at 01:17 PM

EE

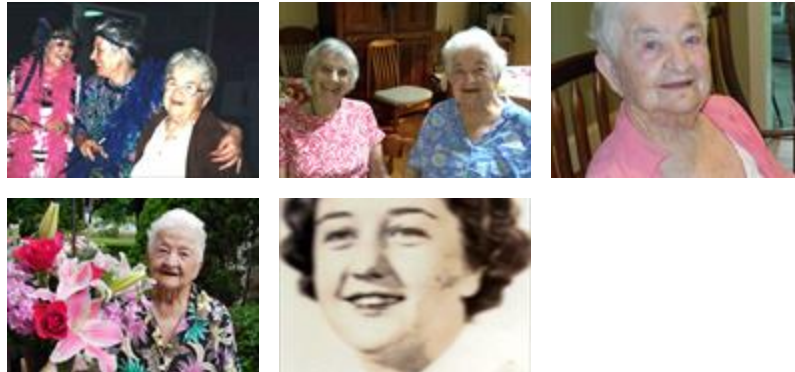
Mom would be proud of you and happy to know that she had an influence on your success!

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Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:55 PM

EE

“ 10 files added to the album Family, Friends and Memories



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Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 12:57 PM

SW

“ Shirley Manning WorriLOW lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Shirley Manning WorriLOW - September 15, 2018 at 11:48 AM

EE

Thank you! Much appreciated

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:56 PM

SW

I was born and raised in Quaker Neck and my family lived in Cliff City. I also had Mrs DeCoursey for business classes for several years at KCHS. She taught me so much I used later in life. We were just reminiscing about her at our 40th Class Reunion in June. Great memories we all shared.

Shirley Manning WorriLOW - September 15, 2018 at 04:35 PM

LB

“ Larry And Lee Beck lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Larry and Lee Beck - September 15, 2018 at 10:09 AM

EE

Thank you!

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:56 PM

TG

“ Teresa Gsell lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Teresa Gsell - September 15, 2018 at 06:41 AM

EE

Thank you!

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:57 PM

TR

“ Tracy lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Tracy - September 14, 2018 at 10:33 PM

EE

Thank you!

Ethel Elliott - September 15, 2018 at 03:57 PM

ST

“ Sharon Truitt lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey



Sharon Truitt - September 14, 2018 at 10:33 PM

JE

*She had a big heart sweet lady...*

**Jerry** - September 15, 2018 at 09:28 AM

GA

*I was acquainted with Jeddie briefly through the Olde Kent Quilters. It was always a delight to see her. She always had a smile on her face.*

**Gail** - September 15, 2018 at 12:37 PM

EE

*Thank you! She loved her quilting and needlework friends and adventures! We all cherish the beautiful quilts she made for us!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 03:58 PM

CF

“ *Chester River Health Foundation lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Chester River Health Foundation** - September 14, 2018 at 09:38 PM

EE

*Thank you! My mom loved her Volunteering days at Kent & Queen Anne's, now Chester River Health Foundation! She has a whole collection of Volunteer buttons and she was proud of every one!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 04:00 PM

MR

“ *Mayann Ruehrmund lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Mayann Ruehrmund** - September 14, 2018 at 09:37 PM

EE

*Thank you! Much appreciated.*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 04:01 PM

DB

“ *DORIS ANN BRAMBLE lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**DORIS ANN BRAMBLE** - September 14, 2018 at 08:54 PM

EE

*Thank you very much.*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 04:01 PM

VS

“ *Vicki Sappington lit a candle in memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



**Vicki Sappington** - September 14, 2018 at 08:29 PM

EE

*Thank you!*

**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 04:02 PM

TJ

“ *Tom And Nancy Lee Jewell lit a candle in  
memory of Jeddie Parker DeCoursey*



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**Tom and Nancy Lee Jewell** - September 14, 2018 at 06:37 PM

EE

*Thank you! Much appreciated*

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**Ethel Elliott** - September 15, 2018 at 04:02 PM