



## Margaret K. Johnstone

September 29, 1924 - April 11, 2020

Margaret Kennedy Johnstone passed away peacefully from natural causes on April 11, 2020 at her home in Chestertown, Maryland surrounded by her family. Peggy was 95 years old.

The second of five children, she was born at Rosecroft, St. Mary's City, Maryland on September 29, 1924 to Laura Cecilia Hebb and John Wayles Kennedy. Her father passed away when Peggy was a young child, and her mother later remarried Maryland State Senator Joseph Allen Coad. She attended Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School, George Washington University, both in Washington, D.C., and the University of Mexico, Mexico City.

Peggy had a distinguished and rewarding career with the State Department in the Foreign Service, working in the Displaced Persons Service Bureau in Hamburg, Germany, where she worked to reunite displaced families after World War II. It was in Germany where she met Gene, her husband of 56 years.

Peggy and Gene shared a passion for gardening, historic restoration, and preservation. In the early 1960's, they purchased and restored a Victorian home in St. Mary's County, where they lived until 1976. The family then moved to Chestertown, and together with the help of their children restored the Wallis-Wickes House at 102 High Street, where they lived until 2005. In their 80's, and still cultivating their passion for restoration and gardening, they purchased and restored 105-107 South Mill Street. Peggy was always

active and had many interests, including traveling, reading, community service, and crabbing. She was an active member in the Garden Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, Monticello Association, Kent County Historical Society, and Questers. She was especially proud of her Maryland heritage and greatly appreciated its history and food. Peggy had a great fondness for collecting, particularly antiques, and in her retirement, she and three close friends founded Bittersweet, a local antique store. Peggy had a love for nature and was entertained daily by the birds and squirrels in her garden, and always welcomed the seasonal flowers.

Peggy is survived by her seven children, eighteen grandchildren, and five great grandchildren: Hall and Betsy Johnstone, Edenton, NC and their sons Cole (Ashlea) and Lex (Michelle); Laura and John Wilson, Worton, MD and their children, Wayles (James), Nate (Jamie), Garth and Jack; Virginia Johnstone, Chestertown, MD and her children, Peter, Tom (Jamie), Katherine (Jacob) and Margaret; Margaret and Patrick Wilson, La Jolla, CA and their son's, Chaz and Hall; Jane Johnstone, San Francisco, CA, and her daughter Griffin; Nan and Bill Norris, Chestertown, MD, and their children Miles and Hayley; and Rebecca Appleton, Chestertown, MD and her daughters, Eliza, Amanda, and Bellamy. Peggy is survived by her older brother John Wayles Kennedy and his wife Dina, Boca Raton, FL. Her husband Eugene Hall Johnstone preceded her in death in August 2010.

Due to state restrictions associated with COVID-19, a Celebration of Life will be scheduled when it is safe to gather together to honor Peggy's life.

Interment will be at The Monticello Graveyard in Charlottesville, VA.

The family expresses a special thank you to her caregivers, Jennifer Kaczmarczyk, Shirley Foster, and Julie Haynes for their care and support.

# Tribute Wall



“ Margaret K. Johnstone

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Margaret K. Johnstone

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Margaret K. Johnstone

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ In memory of Peggy and the time spent together with Jean in Bittersweet.

Lawson Cording - April 28, 2020 at 09:59 AM



“ Sending love and prayers to all the Johnstones.

Janet Conley - April 23, 2020 at 05:38 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Miss Peggy's passing. I was in an exercise class with her for some years. She rarely ever missed a class and we all looked forward to her stories of her travels. Class has not been the same without her. She was a wonderful lady.



Judy Fleming - April 20, 2020 at 03:11 AM

CP

“ Dear Laura and family,

*Everybody called her Miss Peggy! I called her "girlfriend" and we were just like girlfriends. We would laugh out loud, we didn't really need a subject just something that came to mind.*

*Peggy told me stories of her life growing up, her mischief, crabbing on the Chesapeake Bay with her brother, life in Georgetown and memories of her loving family life. We talked about the years living in Germany while she was working for the State Department.*

*And then there were seven children of her own. It was rumored that Mr. Gene would say "it was those candlelight dinners". Some days we would name the children and figure their ages. And then there were the grandchildren and great grandchildren, there was always a new topic to explore and hopefully get it right.*

*I know how much you will miss your mother. She was a colorful, bright spirit, a light to follow and I will miss my dear little friend.*

*The dance she did on her 95th birthday and the wonderful big laughs we shared and the stories we shared Peggy was a delight and a spirit to be reckoned with. She leaves us all sad but enriched by knowing her and sharing her spirit.*

*Friend and companion,*

*Cinda*

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Cinda Pitcock - April 19, 2020 at 01:40 PM

LG

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Laura Garrabrant** - April 17, 2020 at 01:42 PM

  
Edward  
Maxcy

“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Mrs. Johnstone, I did not know her well, but whenever we met she was also gracious and very charming. May her family find comfort in one another and many, many good memories.*

*Edward Maxcy*

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**Edward Maxcy** - April 17, 2020 at 11:29 AM

CJ

“ *Carla Johnson lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone*



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**Carla Johnson** - April 17, 2020 at 08:39 AM

KG

“ *Katherine Goldberg lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone*



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**Katherine Goldberg** - April 16, 2020 at 11:13 AM



“ Aunt Peggy was always such a gentle women who would delight in any story of an adventure that you could tell her. She always had a special sparkle in her eyes like she knew something that you might figure out later in life. I cant remember many days that she was not carrying a little one on her hip. God bless her for patience bringing seven beautiful children into the world. Love to all my cousins and their children who are grieving the loss of their mother, grandmother, and great grandmother! She lived a long and fruitful life!



Carol Heischober - April 16, 2020 at 08:40 AM

PQ

With happy memories of Peggy and Gene's visit to our home in Scotland. May they be reunited in Glory. Bert and Darrin Kerrigan

Professor Herbert Kerrigan QC - April 17, 2020 at 05:50 AM

TT

“ Trish And Eddie Taylor lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



Trish and Eddie Taylor - April 15, 2020 at 07:26 PM

BN

“ Sending our love to you and your family at this difficult time.



Brent and Terry Nelson - April 15, 2020 at 06:05 PM

GC

“ Gail Kendall Claggett lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



Gail Kendall Claggett - April 15, 2020 at 10:16 AM

JH

“ Julie Haynes lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



Julie Haynes - April 15, 2020 at 09:42 AM

TF

“ The Ruehrmund Family lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



The Ruehrmund Family - April 15, 2020 at 09:29 AM

BE

“ Bonnie Edwards lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



Bonnie Edwards - April 14, 2020 at 06:46 PM

JW

“ So sorry for your loss. Mrs. Johnstone was such a sweetheart and will be missed.



Josie Elburn Wersten - April 14, 2020 at 05:19 PM

HJ

“ Laura, Nan and families, please accept my condolences. Holly Johnson

holly johnson - April 14, 2020 at 04:43 PM

PM

“ Pam And Tommy Marvel lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



Pam and Tommy Marvel - April 14, 2020 at 03:24 PM

HT

“ Heidi Thoma-luff lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone



Heidi Thoma-luff - April 14, 2020 at 03:02 PM

LS

“ *Liz Smith lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone*



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**Liz Smith** - April 14, 2020 at 02:15 PM

RJ

“ *Robin Jamar lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone*



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**Robin Jamar** - April 14, 2020 at 12:24 PM

GC

“ *Gail Kendall Claggett lit a candle in memory of Margaret K. Johnstone*



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**Gail Kendall Claggett** - April 14, 2020 at 11:12 AM