



Marie Snyder Cookerly

June 25, 1926 - February 20, 2015

Marie Snyder Cookerly, beloved wife of the late Ernest S. Cookerly, passed peacefully away at home on the brilliant winter afternoon of February 20, 2015, beside the beautiful Chester River that she revered. She was a loving spouse and a dedicated mother, a tireless homemaker and an elegant lady. She was predeceased by her husband of 56 years, Ernest S. Cookerly, in 2010.

Marie was born on June 25, 1926, to Samuel A. and Helen K. Snyder, the youngest of three girls. Raised in Chevy Chase, MD, the family home at the corner of Brookeville Road and Leland Street was initially nestled in a quiet, bucolic setting which was later surrounded by the expanding suburbia. Marie and her sisters were popular, attractive girls, and their father became known among the local suitors vying for their company as "Shotgun Sam." She graduated from Purdue University and returned home, taking a job as head dietician in one of the five Pentagon cafeterias. Arriving for work early, she often observed a handsome officer in the parking lot walking to work at a brisk pace, and he would nod and say hello as he passed. One morning he walked up to her and introduced himself, the first moments of a love that would last a lifetime.

Marie and Ernie were married on June 10, 1954, and moved to Chestertown, MD, shortly thereafter. Life on the Eastern Shore of Maryland represented an

adjustment for a girl more used to the bustle of the city. But Chestertown proved an exciting place, a mixed bag of new experiences. In the first few months, Marie experienced Hurricane Hazel, the fireworks plant explosion, wild game dinners and crab feasts. She initially wondered to herself why her husband had chosen to live in such a remote place. She worked as a dietician for Washington College for several years, and was loved by the students and faculty she served.

Eventually the couple moved to a new residence in Country Club Estates to start a family, where her children, Richard and Susan, were born.

Perhaps the crowning achievement in a life well-lived occurred in 1967, for she had developed aspirations of having a home in the country on the water. One of her favorite stories, which she delighted in recounting, was of her bidding at auction in order to obtain her family home of the past 48 years in Quaker Neck on the Chester. Marie said that several days after she placed the successful bid, she went to the property and sat down by the river, contemplating how, in her words, she “had arrived.”

During the years of her children’s youth, she worked to raise money for Kent School at annual Christmas sales which she spearheaded with her dear friends, Peggy Brogan and Suzanne Hogans. She made her home a haven for her family and became more comfortable with the ways of the Eastern Shore. For example, she delighted in catching crabs and took similar delight in the steaming and eating of them. Her family meant everything to her.

She was a golfer and an avid bowler for many years, a fixture at the Wednesday coffee break league. She loved entertaining, and her home was the scene of many gatherings. Fun-loving Marie would sometimes disappear, only to reappear in costume to further incite the assemblage. Marie was a cancer survivor, and was very proud of the fact that she was one of the

longest known surviving colostomy patients. As always, she was fearless, loving and caring for the needs of others before her own. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters, and her beloved niece, Helen.

She is survived by a daughter, Susan M. Cookerly, of Stamford, CT; a son, Richard, of Chestertown, MD, and two grandchildren, Julian and Sage.

There will be a graveside service at St. Paul's Church on Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 11 a.m. A celebration of her life is being planned for a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to be made to Compass Regional Hospice, 255 Comet Drive. Centreville, MD 21617.

Cemetery Details

St. Pauls Cemetery (Kent County)

7600 Sandy Bottom Road
Chestertown, MD

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Pauls Cemetery (Kent County)
7600 Sandy Bottom Road
Chestertown, MD

Tribute Wall



“ Marie Snyder Cookerly

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Marie Snyder Cookerly

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Marie Snyder Cookerly

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ Nita Wiczoreck lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly



Nita Wiczoreck - March 09, 2015 at 10:05 AM



“ Mrs. Cookerly was like a "second mother" to me throughout my childhood. My thoughts and prayers together with warm hugs of comfort go out to Susan (one of my dearest and treasured friends) and Richard whom I've known since age 4. Memories of swimming, biking, summer camp adventures, horseback rides, parallel bars, pabbering, Miss Kitty, playing with gerbils, and otherwise enjoying the company of the Cookerly family will forever occupy a most special place in my heart.

Liz Haslbeck - February 25, 2015 at 06:31 PM

CR

“ Sincere sympathy to Susan and Richard. Your mom was such a beautiful and charming lady - a real example to all ladies! I was surprised to see that we (ahd and I) grew up a few blocks from each other in Chevy Chase and attended the same high school! What a perfect couple your mom and dad were - and Chestertown will feel the loss of both of them. Hugs to you both, Cathy Middleton Raphael and Middleton children...

Cathy Raphael - February 25, 2015 at 08:08 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 24, 2015 at 03:11 PM

SQ

“ Sara Beth And David Quinn lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly



Sara Beth and David Quinn - February 24, 2015 at 01:15 PM

PS

“ Patricia Sutton lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly



Patricia Sutton - February 24, 2015 at 01:10 PM

NG

“ Nancy Greenwood lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly



Nancy Greenwood - February 24, 2015 at 01:07 PM

JT

“ Mrs. Cookerly was such a remarkable woman. My husband adored her and enjoyed listening to her life stories. She will certainly be missed! Gene & Jennifer Teat

Jennifer Teat - February 24, 2015 at 10:15 AM

CJ

“ Cheryl Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly



Cheryl Jacobs - February 24, 2015 at 09:35 AM

SC

“ *She was an amazing grandmother and I loved her a lot, Sage Cookerly*

Sage Cookerly - February 23, 2015 at 06:04 PM

LC

“ *Lynda H. Palmatary, Centreville sent a virtual gift in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly*



Lynda H. Palmatary, Centreville - February 23, 2015 at 05:09 PM

MR

“ *Our heart-felt condolences are sent to all of you. Max & Maryann*



Max & Maryann Ruehrmund - February 23, 2015 at 01:51 PM

KW

“ *My condolences to the family...you have lost a great lady. I am both glad and lucky to have spent the time I did with her...over the years. She will be missed by many here at Kent Athletic and Wellness Center.*

Kimberly Welch - February 23, 2015 at 05:51 AM

PB

“ *Pamela Boulden lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly*



Pamela Boulden - February 21, 2015 at 11:10 AM

LB

“ *Larry & Lee Beck lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly*



Larry & Lee Beck - February 21, 2015 at 08:57 AM

JL

“ *Jeff And Lana Luike lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly*



Jeff and Lana Luike - February 21, 2015 at 06:27 AM

KB

“ *So sorry to hear of Marie's passing, she was so determined to keep going, I never saw someone like her when it came to bowling, she even learned to bowl left handed one time when she broke her right arm. She always was a good person to have a great conversation with, and will be greatly missed.*

Kathy Blyman - February 21, 2015 at 05:35 AM

BB

“ I am so very sorry to hear of Marie's passing. We bowled together for many years and become friends. We sure laughed alot together. I will miss her . RIP my friend

Brenda Biddle - February 21, 2015 at 12:14 AM

TJ

“ Tom And Nancy Lee Jewell lit a candle in memory of Marie Snyder Cookerly



Tom and Nancy Lee Jewell - February 20, 2015 at 03:53 PM

TJ

So sorry to hear of Mrs. Cookerly's passing. Prayers to the family.

Tom and Nancy Lee Jewell - February 20, 2015 at 03:54 PM