



## MaryRuth Peck

August 18, 1938 - April 9, 2013

MaryRuth "OJ" Peck, age 74, of Grasonville, MD, passed away on April 9, 2013, after a valiant three-year battle against cancer.

MaryRuth was born in Manhattan, KS, on August 18, 1938. She graduated summa cum laude from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in January 1960, with a major in English and a minor in French. She studied French for a semester at Université Lavale in Quebec.

MaryRuth married James Wyatt Peck (Jim) on December 20, 1959; they were very happily married for 53 years. MaryRuth set up 22 different homes during Jim's 26 year military career, and enjoyed living all over the country and overseas. She was always a model of organization. She loved being an Army officer's wife, and especially appreciated the close friendships with wives of her husband's West Point classmates. MaryRuth was a Red Cross volunteer in military hospitals at many of her husband's duty stations, and earned her three gallon blood donation pin.

After living in so many houses, MaryRuth knew exactly how she wanted to design the home she and Jim built in Prospect Bay, MD, in 1984. It became her dream home, and she found great joy reading in the sun on the back deck and sharing spectacular sunsets with her husband. She started learning how to play golf in 1984 at the Prospect Bay Country Club, and it soon became her

passion. She loved her golf friends, who were great golfing buddies and were tremendously supportive throughout her illness. Her golf friends gave her the nickname “OJ” because of her trademark orange attire and accessories. She also loved playing golf with her husband – she and Jim were the husband-wife Prospect Bay Club low net champions in 1997. She also achieved the remarkable feat of shooting a hole-in-one not just once, but twice. She also enjoyed fishing with her family, and was an avid reader.

MaryRuth is survived by her beloved husband; her three children, Dan (Susan) of Lafayette, CO, Debbie Brown of Portland, ME, and Jim (Cristin) of Ocean City, MD; her seven grandchildren, Madeline and Wyatt Peck, Prescott, Rachel, Clara and Spencer Brown, and Graham Peck; as well as many friends.

A funeral service will be held at 3:00 pm on Monday, April 15, at the Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A. in Chester, MD, where friends may begin visiting with the family beginning at 1:30 pm. A burial service for close friends and family will be held at the U.S. Military Academy Cemetery at West Point, NY, on Friday, April 19 at 1:30 pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to the American Cancer Society, 92 Read’s Way, Suite 205, New Castle, DE 19720; or another cancer research organization.

# Cemetery Details

## West Point Cemetery

Washington Road  
West Point, NY 10996

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 15. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
info@fhnfuneralhome.com

## Service

APR 15. 3:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
info@fhnfuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *MaryRuth Peck*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *MaryRuth Peck*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *MaryRuth Peck*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Mary Ruth and I grew up together, close little girl cousins. We read together by the hour, learned to handle the jungle jim together, baked our mud pies on the root cellar roof, dared to try out the grain bin at grandpa's farm, "OJ" fit her as she was a ray of sunshine to all her knew her. She has remained in my heart all her life and will continue to do so until we meet again. There is an empty spot in our life for now.*

**Lyn Burgin** - April 18, 2013 at 07:53 AM



“ *Bonnie Blattenberger lit a candle in memory of MaryRuth Peck*



**Bonnie Blattenberger** - April 15, 2013 at 08:05 PM

SS

“ *Sheila Stairs lit a candle in memory of MaryRuth Peck*



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**Sheila Stairs** - April 13, 2013 at 05:18 PM

SS

*My prayers go out to the family and friends of Mrs. Peck. I only knew her professionally. She was always so sweet when she brought her big guy "Chance" into the kennel where I work.*

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**Sheila Stairs** - April 13, 2013 at 05:21 PM

RA

“ *My wife and I knew Mary Ruth (and Jim) since our early Army days. Jim and I both were Christmas babies. Every year as a minimum, the four of us would have a birthday at some good resturant. When stationed togrther, we all met for bridge, dinner or just wonderful friendship. Mary Ruth was a true friend to us, especially my wife (Edie) who had Parkinsons over the last 31 years of her life. My wife passed on April 1 and needless to say hearing of Jim's lost was very difficult for me. I am so very sorry for Mary Ruth's passing and I know the hurt he is suffering. I wish I could do more than just writing this short memory of a wonderful lady and beautiful couple. I expect by now, Mary Ruth and Edie have joined together in that better place.*

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**Ralph** - April 12, 2013 at 12:46 PM

KD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Peck family . I will always treasure the friendship I had with my golf buddy . When OJ walked into a room she lit it up with her smile and of course her orange outfits. She was always there to help others in any way she could. Her love for her husband Jim, her children and grandchildren was so obvious to everyone. We will miss her but we will never forget all the great memories.

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**Karen Dooley** - April 11, 2013 at 09:54 PM

KD

*Karen and Patrick Dooley*

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**Karen Dooley** - April 11, 2013 at 09:58 PM

EP

“ Sending our sympathy to you all. You are now and will be in the thoughts and prayers of the Missouri Pecks (& Howard in Longmont) in the days ahead.  
I'm grateful that I knew Mary Ruth; though states apart, we were able to share some common interests, such as reading and devotion to our canines.  
As Peck daughters-in-law, our duties on many Christmases in Springfield were to assist with preparation of the large Christmas Eve dinner, then another festive dinner Christmas Day.  
Grandmother definitely in charge, so we kept a low profile!

*Elizabeth Peck and family*

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**Elizabeth Peck** - April 11, 2013 at 03:17 PM