



## Jean Hathaway Fergusson

July 8, 1926 - May 20, 2013

Jean Hathaway Fergusson age 86 died on May 20, 2013 at the Quadrangle in Haverford, Pennsylvania.

Jean was born in Boston, Massachusetts July 8, 1926. She grew up in Allston with her two brothers John and Bill, her father a railroad engineer and her mother a well known baker with recipes published in the Boston Globe.

During World War II she was a member of the Cadet Nurses Corps and at this time she finished her RN at Children's Hospital in Boston. She became pen pals with William Blake Fergusson (deceased 1999) who was stationed in the South Pacific. When he returned from the war they married.

In the mid 1950s they lived in the southwest states of Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico. During this time her husband worked for the Atomic Energy Commission and mapped the area for the Geological Survey Association.

She began her career in nursing in Boston in the 1940s working with Sidney Farber at the Children's Hospital in the first pediatric tumor clinic. She worked in pediatric oncology throughout her career and was the Founder and Director of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program in Oncology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) for over twenty years. It was at CHOP that she developed and implemented an innovative model pediatric nurse practitioner

program and did ground breaking work on the late effects of cancer in children..

In addition to her RN she received a BSN from Villanova, a PNP from Northeastern and a MSN from University of Pennsylvania. She also received a EdD in education from Columbia at the age of 62.

Her nurse practitioner students said she served as a role model and mentor to countless nurses and that she was “gentle, funny, wise, easily moved, curious and generous.”

There is an annual award given in her name – Jean Fergusson Excellence in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nursing Practice Award. This award is “given in recognition of compassion and expertise in clinical nursing practice for the active incorporation of research and new ideas into clinical practice.”

In addition to her nursing career she had six children – Nancy, Jane, Bill, Betsy, Stan, and Katie and seven grandchildren – Brock, Chris, Meghan, Sam, Charlie, Will and Ted.

The family spent many summers at Jean’s beloved Waterside, Prince Edward Island , Canada. .

Jean was an excellent baker and well known by both family and friends to have the best home made dinner rolls, pie crust and fruitcake. She sang in the St Mary’s Choir and served as a vestry member there.

Her Memorial Service will be held on July 3rd, 2PM in St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 36 Ardmore Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003.

Per the family's wishes, in lieu of flowers, contributions to APHON in memory of Jean may be made payable to the Jean Fergusson Fund.

APHON Jean Fergusson Fund

4700 W. Lake Ave

Glenview, IL 60025

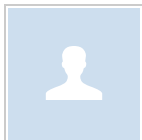
# Tribute Wall



“ I was looking for Jean past couple years and I came across this. Your mom was instrumental in my survival of Cancer back in 1975 & 77. Without her kindness, love, and excellent nursing skills, things would've been that much tougher on me and my mom and dad. My deepest sympathies Daniel McCurdy

---

daniel mcurdy - March 24, 2015 at 03:06 PM



“ Jean was instrumental in my career and a true friend. My fondest memories are of a trip to New Zealand, Jean memorizing her lecture on rhabdomyosarcoma the entire LONG flight, and later, several trips to PEI and the wonderful hospitality of her friends and family! Jean brought out the best in people. A true role model of making the best in things and enjoying the moment! Fran Wiley, pediatric oncology nurse##imported-begin##Fran Wiley##imported-end##

---

June 02, 2013 at 01:52 PM



“ *My thoughts are with you as you grieve for your mother, My deepest sympathy.*

*Jean was a legend of her time, and will always be thought of as the "Mother of pediatric oncology nursing" Her compassion, intellect, caring and humanity*

*influenced legions of nurses to be their best and give their expertise to sick children and their families.*

*She was an important influence and support in my professional nursing life and*

*the dearest, kindest, caring friend. She taught us all that in our very serious work we should always find a moment of lightness and joy in each day and giggling was an essential part of life.*

*Be gentle with yourselves as you grieve. And know how special you were in her life.*

*Gail Perin*

*Oncology nurse at University of Calif San Francisco*

*chairpeson of CCSG during Jean's tenure###imported-begin##Gail*

*Perin###imported-end##*

---

May 31, 2013 at 05:39 PM