



Jill Berguido Gill

April 24, 1945 - November 10, 2021

Jill Berguido Gill, 76, of Haverford died Wednesday morning, 10 November, 2021, sitting up in her big comfortable chair in the bedroom of the house in which she lived for 37 years with her loving and devoted husband, Bruce Cooper Gill, and where she raised her loving son, Timothy Clement. Jill died quietly from complications of Alzheimer's disease with which she had struggled for better than six years, and which were exacerbated by chemotherapy treatments she received for a breast cancer diagnosis in January 2015. Unable to finally stand, walk, eat, swallow, or talk, Jill could still squeeze your hand as though she at least partly understood what was being said to her. She opened her big brown eyes and gave us a broad smile while being introduced to her new hospice nurse, after which she simply closed her eyes and went peacefully to sleep, suddenly having no pulse or blood pressure. Jill was born at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia on April 24, 1945 to Carlos Berguido, Jr, Esq. and Marion Jayne Berguido, the 5th of six children. She spent most of her life in Lower Merion Township and graduated from the Agnes Irwin School in 1963. She went on to graduate from Sweetbriar College, Virginia, and later earned her Master's Degree at Temple University in Education in 1975. After "roaming" a bit to California and New York City after college, Jill encountered a teaching position at the Montgomery Country Day School in Wynnewood, where she became a reading specialist. She remained there until the school moved to Chester Springs in the mid-1980's, at which time she opened her private tutoring and testing practice.

She loved working with children and also often taught in the Agnes Irwin summer programs, finally fully retiring from teaching in 2013. Jill retired to driving her friends who could no longer drive themselves, and to her gardens, birdfeeder, fish pool, ducks, chickens, dogs, and other pets. Jill was a bit “footloose” and loved to travel with her girlfriends, visiting Panama (where her father was born and was Consul from the United States), Columbia, Bermuda, Toronto Canada, Williamsburg, Mt Vernon, among other destinations. She was an inveterate photo taker, and the house is full of albums of flowering shrubs, bushes, potted plants, and countertops loaded with vegetable produce from her large gardens out in back of “Hidden Half Acre” as she named the property which backs up to the railroad tracks. She was also a consummate note taker and journal writer, and she could tell you what bean seed she planted on what day in 1987, planted in the morning or afternoon and what the weather was that day. Jill was very active at her church, Christ Church in Philadelphia, serving on various phone tree and sandwich committees. She was received into the Episcopal Church by her and Bruce’s friend The Rt Rev Lyman Ogilby in 1986. Until she became ill, Jill served as a lector or reader at worship and sometimes passed the common cup at communion. Unless away on a brief vacation to Cape Cod to see her older sister, Jill never missed a 9:00 AM Sunday Eucharist with husband Bruce until the Covid Pandemic hit and shut things down and during which her disease rapidly progressed. In addition to her husband and son, she is survived by her sister, Joan Staples, of Rosemont, and her brother Carlos Berguido III, of California, in addition to brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, former students, and her many friends. One long-time friend of 73 years, remembers Jill for two things: her beautiful big brown eyes and the fact that Jill was the only person she had ever met from whom some sort of an untruth or unkind word was never spoken about anyone. Funeral Services will be held at Christ Church Philadelphia, 2nd & Market Sts, Saturday, November 20, 2021, 1:00 PM. Interment private in the Memorial Garden at the church . In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Jill’s name to The Agnes Irwin School,

Attn: Development Office, 274 S. Ithan Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010.

Tribute Wall

LB

“ On behalf of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates and Rural Historic Confederation (RHC) Member, our heartfelt condolence is shared to Bruce in honoring the memory of his wife Jill. Linn (Linnell) Trimbell, Chair, Advisory Council, Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates

Linn (Linnell) Trimbell, BBPA - November 18, 2021 at 05:05 PM

HW

“ Jill was my friend for 73 years. it all started in the late 1940's when she and her family moved in next door to my family on Rose Lane in Haverford. We were exactly the same age. We attended Agnes Irwin School together from Kindergarten through 3rd grade. I left to go to another school where my older sister was (Baldwin School) but Jill and I still saw each other after school almost every day. Our favorite after school activities were watching Mickey Mouse Club on her grandfather's black and white TV which " PopPop" kindly shared with two little girls; and "going to the creek". The creek was small and about 1/2 mile away but to us it was the wild frontier with an exciting creek running through it. Once or twice we saw a hermit living in a field adjoining the creek. This was high adventure for 8-year-olds!

Jill was fun and smart, kind and optimistic and steadfastly loyal to me and my younger sister. My sister and I had arguments and Jill always told us "I won't take sides. I love you both". That kindness and integrity resulted in two lifelong friendships with Jill - my sister's and mine.

Dear Jill, Thank you for your gentle friendship which I enjoyed more than I can say.

With love from Hyla Wetherill

Hyla Wetherill - November 18, 2021 at 12:46 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Jill Berguido Gill.*



November 16, 2021 at 05:42 PM



“ *Jill was a lovely and very special lady and it was my privilege to be her companion in various adventures in the final year of her life as she bore her challenging illness with uncommon dignity and grace.*

Agnes Howkins

Agnes Howkins - November 16, 2021 at 10:13 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Matthias - November 15, 2021 at 07:11 AM



What a great photo of you, Jill..and Bruce. I think fondly of the evenings i spent at your Rose Lane house..with AIS friends , and your sister Joy..reading your grandmother's honeymoon-trip-abroad-ales in her journal..She addressed your grandfather as "Mr." And my visits to the book shop in Bryn Mawr where I would see your mother..xoox

Alix - July 02, 2022 at 11:23 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Jill Berguido Gill.*



November 15, 2021 at 06:47 AM



“ *Remembering Jill Gill always as one of the nicest people in my Tapestry of Life. Often enjoyed Jill's company and conversation at Christ Church activities these past 40 years, Blessings and deepest sympathy to her husband Bruce, son Timothy Clement and all her family. She will be missed. Louise Hand-Mihalek and Stephen Mihalek*

Mihalek Family - November 14, 2021 at 06:23 PM



“ *Beautiful, soft, strong, smart, loving, tender and always thoughtful. A beautiful woman who, with her devoted loving husband, made us all wonder.*

Alex McCurdy - November 12, 2021 at 08:00 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Carla Mudry - November 12, 2021 at 07:58 PM

RU

“ Loving memory of Jill and her pet chickens in the coop/home Bruce built for her to keep them. And travels with her fur baby Chamois. She was so caring and loving of people and animals. So many great conversations and sharing moments. Jill is truly an Angel in heaven.



Ruth - November 12, 2021 at 04:05 PM

AL

Looking at this photo, I can hear the voices of Joy and Jill. Is that Joan? Always on a bike..or with a racket..or both?

Alix - July 02, 2022 at 11:27 PM

FT

“ Fondly, Ted purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jill Berguido Gill.



Fondly, Ted - November 12, 2021 at 01:18 PM