



## Joyce Madeline Douglas

January 12, 1924 - May 16, 2021

Joyce Madeline Douglas, Horticulturist, 97

Joyce Madeline Douglas of Kimberton PA passed away on May 16th, 2021 at 97 years of age of natural causes at Waverly Heights nursing facility in Gladwyne, PA.

Joyce was born in Connecticut and raised in New Jersey before moving to Newton, Massachusetts. But make no doubt about it, she was a true and hardy New Englander. Joyce loved to ski and bike and road through Great Britain and France as a young girl. Early on in life, she fell in love with Block Island (and lobster roll sandwiches), her home away from home for almost 70 years. With a childhood interest in nature, academia and all things New England, Joyce graduated from University of Vermont with a biology degree and worked as an assistant along with other biologist at Woods Hole Laboratory in Massachusetts. Those experiences encouraged her to pursue a master's degree in biology at Middlebury College. While working as a lab technician at Harvard Medical School, she met her future husband, Bryce Douglas, a visiting researcher from Scotland with a Ph. D. in Organic Chemistry. After her time at Harvard and marriage in 1955, her husband's career took them to Singapore for further research in native medical plants, an experience that sparked Joyce's lifelong fascination with plants and herbs. Following Singapore, Joyce and Bryce returned (with their two new baby boys) to the United States and built an expansive farm with gardens and a

greenhouse near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

After her last son was born, Joyce enjoyed her time as a busy homemaker and pursued her interests in tennis and all things horticulture including a stint as President of the Herb Society of America. She lived on her farm in Kimberton, Pennsylvania for nearly 60 years and hosted annual herb garden sales and won many a ribbon for her prized plant and herb collection. Joyce and Bryce also enjoyed travel and maintained a second home in the Algarve region of Portugal where they would spend time in the spring and fall to enjoy the warm and sunny weather, golf, and tennis.

She survived her two younger sisters, Patricia and Maureen, and her late husband, Bryce Douglas, a renowned pharmaceutical executive whose team led the development of the ulcer drug Tagamet, which became a #1 selling drug in the 1970's. She is survived by her three sons, Alan, Neal and Iain and three granddaughters, Michelle, Sara and Alexandra.

The funeral and burial plans are private.

In lieu of flowers, people may donate in the name of Joyce Douglas to the following:

French and Pickering Creek Trust: <https://frenchandpickering.org/giving/>

Camphill Kimberton: <https://www.camphillkimberton.org/faq>

Green Valleys Association: <https://www.greenvalleys.org/support/#donate>

Kimberton Volunteer Fire Company: <https://www.kimbertonfire.org/content/donate/>

Herb Society of America: <https://www.herbsociety.org/support/>

Block Island Conservancy: <https://biconservancy.org/>

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Dear Alan, Neal and Iain.  
This is a beautiful tribute to your wonderful mother.  
She was a very caring, kind and talented person.  
Be assured of my prayers and my sincerest sympathy,  
Anita*

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**ANITA SAVOY** - May 22, 2021 at 08:23 PM