



# Janice Lee Ferguson

SEP 17, 1939 - DEC 24, 2018



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# Janice Lee Ferguson

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**O**ur treasured mother, grandmother, sister, cousin, aunt, friend and neighbor, Janice Lee Ferguson, suddenly and unexpectedly passed from this life on Christmas Eve, Monday December 24, 2018, at the age of 79.

Jan was born and raised in Bristol, VA, the daughter of Arlie Frances Shelley Black and David Samuel Black. She married John P. 'Fergie' Ferguson, Jr. in 1962 and was a devoted military housewife, living on military bases in Hawaii and Oklahoma. The family grew with daughter Shannon and son Johnny, and lived in Newark, DE, Rochester, NY, and Vienna, VA. Becoming a single mother in 1982, Jan worked for the State Department in Roslyn, VA for over twenty years with above top secret clearance. She travelled extensively for both work and pleasure, including Asia, Europe and the Caribbean. In 2005, Jan retired to Rehoboth Beach, DE.

Jan loved life and was a devoted mother and grandmother who adored having her family visit, and her frequent video chats with her daughter and granddaughter. She was also a great doggie mom to her delightful girl, Sammee, and walked her daily, either on the beach or in her neighborhood. Jan led an active life, working out at the gym three times a week. She was an avid reader and crossword devotee, completing multiple daily puzzles. She was a great hostess and had many special dishes including beef stroganoff at the holidays. She was a lifelong Dallas Cowboys fan. Everybody loved Jan because she was always positive, happy and bright. She made friends every day, everywhere.

Along with her parents, Jan is predeceased by her brother, Johnny Black.

Jan is survived by daughter Shannon and son-in-law Gaël of Paris, France, son Johnny of Rehoboth Beach DE, and granddaughter Mia of Paris, France. She is also survived by brothers Harry Black of Chico, CA, and Samuel 'Mac' Black of Knoxville, TN, in addition to cousins, nieces, nephews and countless friends, as well as her ex-husband, Fergie, of Rochester, NY.



## Obituary

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Jan's life will be celebrated by her family & friends at her home Saturday afternoon, January 5, 2019.

Donations in memory of Jan can be made to The Delaware Humane Association of Rehoboth at <https://delawarehumane.org/donate/donate-now>, or think of Jan when you smile at a stranger and make their day.

Please sign the online guestbook located on this site.



# Tribute Wall

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**Linda Phipps Woodward** posted:

I am from the same home town as Janice and knew her family. We both moved away after high school and did not meet again until a school reunion twelve years ago. She was still as vivacious, pretty and sweet as I remembered. She was a special person and I know she will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathy to her entire family. Linda Phipps Woodward

January 5 at 5:28 PM



**Jackie Hawkins Dianich** January 7 at 7:45 PM

I met Jan when I went to Va. Intermont College in Bristol, VA. I met her thru Mittye Manley, also of Bristol, TN. I also dated her brother, Harry Wayne. I send my condolences to her family. Jackie Hawkins Dianich, Easton, MD.



**Marjorie Orendorf** lit a candle in honor of Janice .

To Shannon, Johnny, and John P. (Fergie) - Dan and I were so saddened to see that Jan had passed. We have such fond memories of many good times at Christmas parties or Army/Navy game parties in Newark. Even though we have lived so near for the last several years, we lost touch. Please know that we will keep all of you in our prayers and hope that you will be comforted by the loving memories that I'm sure you hold of this special lady. (If you'd like to connect with us, we are on Facebook or have a listing in a beach area phone book.)



January 5 at 1:33 PM



**Pete & Windy Besson** sent a Crystal Cross Bouquet to the Ferguson family.



January 5 at 6:34 AM



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WB

**Windy Besson** posted:

Some people come into your life for a season, Some stay in your life forever. This was my deep friendship over decades with Jan. She left footprints on my heart. We shared lots of good times from here to Florida, some bad times (losing Bill), a million girl talk lunches, and even laughing so hard when 3 of us tried riding a bike in Florida. She kept saying "is anybody else peddling?". On karaoke nights, she was my best fan...always urging me on. She was my "girly girl" friend...she walked and sometimes talked like Marilyn Monroe! Always beautiful, always turned heads whenever she walked into any room. Her laugh was contagious. Over the years, we shared many laughs, tears, and a few deep secrets. It never mattered if I did something stupid or crazy....she loved me unconditionally...that's a friend. Rare these days. It's a treasure. One of her most joyous moments was when she learned she was a grandmother. It was a happiness like none other. I lost count of how many pictures she sent me of Mia. Right now I can only think of her through tears. I never got to say goodbye...or a last hug. I'm only comforted that she knew our Savior. I will always carry you in my heart and someday I will see you again my sweet friend.Windy Besson

January 3 at 12:24 PM

WE

**Wendy Eaby** posted:

My sincerest condolences to the family. Jan was a such a bright spot in the neighborhood, and I will miss chatting with her on her daily walks with Samee. She always had a smile and a kind word for me. May she rest in peace.

January 3 at 8:38 AM

MD

**Marianne Doyle** January 3 at 9:50 AM

So sorry to hear about Jan's passing. We worked together at the State. She was a lovely lady.

PG

**Penni Glass** posted:

Hello, I don't know you and didn't know your Mom, but I live in Bristol, Tennessee and I read the obituaries daily that come in my email. First off, let me say that I am so sorry for the loss. I couldn't imagine the emptiness you are feeling right now. I saw your Mother's obituary in our local newspaper and her beautiful, happy face caught my attention. I read her obituary and could tell that she was a very outgoing, lovable person that was loved by alot of people and loved back with all she had. I just wanted you and your family to know that I am praying for you. For your grief, your heart break, your feelings of emptiness and even your anger. I will also pray for you for the upcoming days and months, that you will get the understanding and comfort to face the tasks that need to be done. Once again I am so sorry for your loss. God Bless each of you.

January 3 at 7:07 AM



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SO

**Sonja** posted:

Jan will be missed. Her delightful smile. Her gentle voice. She always talked so highly of her children and her granddaughter, oh yes and Sammee. I am blessed to have met her. ❤️

January 2 at 7:30 AM

GM

**Gloria T. Mora** posted:

Sincere condolences to Jan's dear family and her friends. God's blessings to you all and may Jan rest in God's peace. ~ Gloria T. Mora

January 1 at 8:06 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Janice by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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