



Jean C. Ardis

SEP 28, 1932 - OCT 10, 2023



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Jean C. Ardis, 91, of Wilmington and Rehoboth Beach, DE, passed away on Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Born on September 28, 1932, she was the daughter of Roland C. and Minnie E. Chance (Hudson).

Jean graduated from P.S. DuPont High School where she met Lee Ardis. Jean and Lee married in 1953 and raised three daughters: Sherrill Nurnberg (Carl) of Chadds Ford, PA, Sandra Ardis of Media, PA, and Sharon Rakowski (Mark) of Newark, DE. Jean's husband Lee passed away in 2021. She is survived by her daughters as well as her sister Evelyn Kimball of Christiansburg, VA and her grandchildren, Joseph Nurnberg of Oaks, PA and Kaitlyn Rakowski of Apex, NC.

Upon graduation from high school, Jean went to work at Monumental Life Insurance Company where she continued to work through her early years of marriage. She then paused her career for several years and when her daughters grew older, she returned to the workforce, first with New Castle County and later the State of Delaware. Jean finished her career working at the Delaware State House of Representatives.

Jean and Lee enjoyed many bus trips with lifelong friends and made new ones on every trip. She also treasured the friendships she made in the workplace, especially with the colleagues she served with at the end of her career.

Jean was a devoted wife, cherished mother, and a beloved grandmother. At the beach house, she was a dedicated gardener, tending to the flowers and plants that lined the front porch, accepting the compliments of the beachgoers passing by on the way to the boardwalk. In retirement, she also could be found watching the Eagles or Phillies on TV.

Jean believed in service to her community, and she left a mark as a volunteer at both ends of the state. She led many of the band booster fundraising sales at her daughters' schools and served as chaperone on numerous trips. She also lent her time to various local and statewide political campaigns and organizations. When Jean and Lee moved full-time to Rehoboth Beach in 2001,



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Jean served her new community in many ways. She was an active member of the town's Village Improvement Association along with holding office as Recording Secretary for many years with the Sussex County Women's Republican Club. Her early fundraising experience was invaluable as she was instrumental in organizing successful events such as annual flower sales and dinners, where proceeds benefited local political candidates running for office. Her contributions and service to the party over four decades were recognized in 2011 when Jean was named Republican of the Year at the party's annual convention.

Jean's family would like to express their gratitude to her caregivers during her final days at the Newark Campus of Christiana Care and Accent Care.

A private memorial service for the immediate family will be held at Parsell Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Atkins Lodge Chapel, Lewes, DE.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made online in Jean's name to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at www.jdrf.org, or by mail at JDRF, 555 Croton Road, Suite 111, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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AD

Adam Draper posted:

Condolences to Jean's family. My wife and I used to stay next door at the amazing Rehoboth Lighthouse Inn on Delaware Avenue and Jean would peer out the kitchen window to say hello. She would make me laugh. RIP.

November 6 at 7:25 AM

SL

Sharon Paola Lucernoni posted:

My deepest sympathy to the Ardis family. I have pleasant memories of Mrs. Ardis from vacationing with Sherrill and her family in Rehoboth Beach many years ago.

October 22 at 7:31 AM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:37 PM

Thank you, Sharon, for your thoughts. If I correctly remember, I also took piano lessons from you. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:08 PM

Thank you Sharon and greatly appreciate you reaching out. I too have fond memories of us at my parents in RB. Best regards Sherrill

JS

Joan Sciorra posted:

Family of Jean ArdisVolunteered with your Mom at the VIA.My sincere symparhy for your loss..Joan Sciorra

October 21 at 4:45 AM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:38 PM

Thank you for your thoughts, Joan. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:09 PM

Thank you Joan, Sherrill Nurnberg



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PA

Paul posted:

Jean and her husband were long time friends of my parents, Paul and Charlotte. Always enjoyed talking to her and Lee. She called several months ago and it was good to catch up! Best to her children.Paul

October 20 at 5:23 AM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:39 PM

Thank you, Paul, for expressing your thoughts. Mom and Dad enjoyed hanging out with your parents in addition to hearing from you when you called. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:14 PM

Thank you and greatly appreciate you reaching out to the family Paul. Mom and Dad always enjoyed hearing from you as well. Best regards, Sherrill Nurnberg

VM

Valerie McCartan posted:

I'm very sorry to hear of Jean's passing. I worked with her at the General Assembly. She was a sweet lady with a lot of positive energy, and she had a great sense of humor, too! She was a wonderful person to know. My condolences to her family.

October 18 at 3:24 PM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:40 PM

Thank you for expressing your kind words, Valerie. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:17 PM

Thank you Valerie for your condolences and kind words. Sherrill Nurnberg



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PR

Priscilla Rakestraw posted:

To: Jean's daughters and families: I was saddened to learn of Jean's passing. We shared many Republican events, activities, victories, and losses. Jean was always a constant in all of these: dedicated, determined, tireless and fun! In 2011, I was honored to present her with one of the Party's highest awards - Republican of the Year. Thank you for sharing her with us. She truly made a difference in Delaware with her leadership, service and passion!.Priscilla B, Rakestrawformer Republican National Committeewoman for Delaware

October 18 at 12:27 PM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:39 PM

Thank you for your very kind words, Priscilla. I didn't realize you were the one who presented mom with her 2011 Republican of the Year award. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:26 PM

Thank you for your kind words and for reaching out Priscilla. Sherrill Nurnberg

DH

Deborah Hudson posted:

Jean had a heart of gold and was a ray of sunshine! She was always willing to share her time to help someone! Everyone loved her! She was a true patriot, very loyal to her country.

October 18 at 5:51 AM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:42 PM

Thank you for the kind words, Debbie. Mom loved working with you and Sandy. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:29 PM

Greatly appreciate your kind words Debbie. Sherrill Nurnberg



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JS

Jr Stehl posted:

Worked with Jean for many years at the NCC Prothonary. Always cherished the time with her. Great person and always very pleasant. Condolences to the family. Love: Jr & Janet Stehl.

October 18 at 4:11 AM

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:43 PM

Thank you for your kind words, Jr. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:30 PM

Thank you Jr. Sherrill Nurnberg

RS

R Savin posted:

My wife and I offer our deepest condolences to Jean's family. I knew Jean all my life, she was a friend of my mother's, even a bridesmaid in my parents' wedding. Jean and her husband Lee raised three charming girls. Rick & Sherry Savin

October 17 at 9:16 AM

MB

Mike Barko October 24 at 2:52 PM

Jean was a customer at the Prothonotary for many years, always had a smile and brightened your day. Sending hugs,

SR

Sharon Ardis Rakowski October 23 at 12:45 PM

Thank you, Ricky and Sherry, for your kind words. Our families go back three generations. and have experienced both the highs and lows of our families. Sharon

SN

Sherrill Nurnberg October 22 at 1:32 PM

Thank you Rick and greatly appreciate your kind words. Sherrill Nurnberg



Memories only last if you share them

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



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