



# Mary Jane Turpin

JUL 6, 1954 - OCT 23, 2023



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# Mary Jane Turpin

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**M**ary “Jane” Turpin, age 69 of Lewes, DE, passed away on Monday, October 23, 2023, at her home. She was born on July 6, 1954, in Chester, PA, daughter of the late Richard and Isabella (Magrogan) Turpin.

Jane earned a bachelor’s degree from Marshall University in Huntington, WV, beginning a lifelong career in education. She retired from Selbyville Middle School after many dedicated years. Jane’s interests and hobbies were many and varied. She had a love of animals and enjoyed creating wildlife habitats, especially caring for the Wood Ducks living on her pond, volunteered at the SPCA, and had a special affinity for Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Jane’s creative mind found outlets in art, music, poetry, and her love of the outdoors was sated by camping trips, or merely sitting by her pond. She treasured time spent with those held dear and will be deeply missed by all fortunate enough to call her friend.

Jane is survived by her siblings: Kathie Brownlee and Richard Turpin (Diane); her nephews: David Brownlee (Jessie), Kevin Brownlee, Andrew Turpin, and Stephen Turpin; and her great-nieces: Ella and Ava.

A celebration of Jane’s life will be announced for April 2024.

Final care has been entrusted to Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, Lewes, DE.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to TriState Bird Rescue & Research, Inc., 170 Possum Hollow Road, Newark, DE 19711, or [www.tristatebird.givingfuel.com/support](http://www.tristatebird.givingfuel.com/support).



## Tribute Wall

**Mary Jane Turpin**

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**Chenoa** lit a candle in honor of Mary Jane.

I will never forget my Jane

March 3 at 4:04 AM



**Margie Martin Gabe** posted:

My condolences to Richie and Kathie. Jane and I were best friends all through elementary school. The Turpin family was an important part of my life during that time. Our parents were close friends and our older brothers were also partners in crime. I have many fond memories of "M J" and the fun we had. May you find comfort in your memories. Margie Martin Gabe

November 26 at 3:40 PM



**Patricia Oliphant** posted:

I am just hearing of Mary Jane's passing. She was a devoted teacher - interesting and enlightening. She was one of those teachers I always wanted to listen to - always on point and always learning and teaching. I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with her.

November 16 at 1:46 PM



**Darlene Stpeter** posted:

I am so sorry to hear of Jane's passing. I too taught with Jane at SMS. What a teacher she was , way ahead of her time. I also regret loosing touch with one of the best friends I ever had. Darlene St Peter

November 13 at 11:56 AM



**Dawn Lekites** posted:

I taught with Jane in Selbyville. Her classroom was next to mine on the front of the building. She was a special teacher loved by both her students and co-workers.

November 7 at 1:43 PM



## Tribute Wall

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NB

**Neil Beahan** lit a candle in honor of Mary Jane.



November 6 at 5:16 AM

NB

**Neil Beahan** posted:

So sorry to hear of Jane's passing. She was a good friend and a tremendous teacher- well ahead of the curve with technology back in the day. Jane and I were co-leaders of the Exploratory team at SMS for years- she was the idea person. Her mind was always two steps ahead. Amazing. She was well liked by her students and colleagues and very well respected. More so, she was a kind person and always thoughtful of others. i'm grateful for the times we had together.

November 6 at 5:15 AM

KB

**Kathie Brownlee** November 6 at 5:37 AM

Thank you Neil, This is Jane's sister, Kathie. I don't recall meeting you but I certainly heard a lot about you. I'll be doing a Celebration of Jane in April and will put out an announcement with retired teachers. I'll be sure to include you. Nice to meet you!



# Tribute Wall

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**Ruth E Ruggiero** lit a candle in honor of Mary Jane.



I knew Jane, the fiery redhead, through teaching at Selbyville Middle School, starting in 1979 or so. She taught Career Ed as her first gig, I believe. When she was married to her husband Bas Entezamvesary, which I can't spell anymore... she made her students learn to say her name before they could go to lunch! She also had "silent days" where kids were not allowed to speak. Not in my bag of tricks. Later, she taught Computer and continued on with that brand new technology. Jane was a true lover of all animals and the joys of nature. She loved the beach and travel. Later in life, her little home on Lakeshore Drive in Lewes was perfect for her as a single lady. She once told me about a green snake coming down from a tree to "meet her" as she sat near the water. She provided little hideaway places, under flat pottery, etc. I uncovered one once and took off, true wimp that I am. She loved a good party and was a thoughtful person. Another hobby was buying and selling unusual items she found at sales and online. She had a good eye and a full house. She was a true individual who didn't filter too much of what she thought or said. I've never been lucky enough to have another friend like her! Sincerely, Ruth Ruggiero

November 4 at 6:15 AM



**Dawn Lekites** November 4 at 10:01 AM

I taught next door to Jane for several years, and I considered her a good friend. I'm sorry to hear of her passing.



**Ruth E Ruggiero** lit a candle in honor of Mary Jane.



November 4 at 6:15 AM



**Michael Turner** November 27 at 5:28 AM

I am very sad to learn of Jane's passing. Jane was a great friend a long time ago. She greatly influenced my love of music from many genres. I am sorry that I lost touch with her.  
Michael Turner



**Kathie Brownlee** November 5 at 12:32 PM

Thanks so much Ruth! I know she always loved you and considered you a great friend. And I do too!



**Ruth E Ruggiero** November 4 at 6:42 AM

Jane, you will always be alive in my memory!



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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