



Genevieve Spry McGee

AUG 21, 1923 - MAR 20, 2024



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Genevieve Spry McGee of Lewes, DE passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the age of 100. Born August 21, 1923, the fourth of five children to Rev. Charles Whittington Spry and Nellie Majors Spry, Genevieve grew up in a dozen small towns throughout Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Graduating from Laurel High School (DE), she continued her education at Blackstone Junior College (VA) and Western Maryland College, receiving her bachelor's degree in education. Genevieve returned to Laurel where she began her teaching career which spanned 35 years. It was there that she met her future husband, Carlton Jennings McGee, a recently returned WWII Army Air Corps veteran, and they wed in 1951. Their spark filled marriage blessed them with a daughter, Jennifer, and 39 years of laughter and merry companionship, along with a myriad of friends always ready to share in the fun of being a guest at the McGee table.

Genevieve was an avid reader and strict grammarian, adored by her students for her devotion and sense of humor. After the death of her husband, Genevieve showed her adventurous spirit by moving to St. Michaels, MD to be closer to her sisters, Ruth Garretson, and Peggy Cadell. She continued her involvement with the Episcopal church, becoming a member and docent at Christ Church in St. Michaels. Throughout her long life, she was a sharp bridge player, and a frequent and enthusiastic home cook and hostess - the latter passion observed by and passed onto her daughter. While well into her 80's, Genevieve relished a morning spent picking strawberries, blueberries or spinach, and loved to hunt far and wide for the best crabmeat on the Eastern Shore. Yet her great joy in life was time spent with grandsons Max and Sam, to whom she was "Vivi", and with whom she shared her love of games. Gin rummy was a special family favorite, although both boys confirm that never once did their grandmother simply "let" either of them win.



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Her latter years were spent at Cadbury in Lewes, now the Moorings of Lewes. Genevieve is survived by her daughter Jennifer M. Townsend of Rehoboth Beach, son in law John G. Townsend IV, grandson Maxwell G. Townsend and his wife Ludivina, grandson Samuel J. Townsend and his partner Kenneth, along with her widely shared recipe for Vivi's short ribs, which graces the table of many a hostess up and down the East Coast.

Burial will be private.

Contributions can be made in Genevieve's memory to St. Peter's Episcopal Church, PO Box 464, Lewes, DE 19958.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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E. Karen Whitaker posted:

I was saddened to read of the loss of your family member. Reading her obituary brought back memories of her Mother, Nellie Spry, my teacher for the first 6 years of my school life. I do not know if I ever met Mrs. McGee, but she certainly looks like my memories of my former beloved teacher from the little one room schoolhouse - Wileys - both gone now, but neither are forgotten. Sincerely, Karen (Gorman) Whitaker

June 30 at 8:47 AM



The Bartholomew'S sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Spry McGee family.



May 10 at 4:21 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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