



Eleanor Dillard

December 13, 1925 - June 21, 2020

Eleanor Suhling Dillard died Sunday, June 21, 2020. Born December 13, 1925, to William Gerhart Suhling and Tina Colhoun Suhling in Lynchburg, Virginia. She graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in 1947. She married Edwin Rucker Dillard, Jr. in 1948; he later became President of Dillard Paper Company until his death in 1965. She was also preceded in death by her sons Edwin Rucker Dillard III and Peter Woodroof Dillard, and grandson Edward Rucker Dillard, IV. She is survived by daughters Leigh Williams Dillard, Stamps Dillard Sewell, Eleanor Gerhart Dillard, and Page Randolph Dillard; grandchildren: Ivy, Kate, Vaughan, Rucker, Peter, Dillard, Will, Courtney, Matt, Leigh; and great-grandchildren Michael, George, and Marlyn.

A stranger to no one, Eleanor was known by all at the Greensboro Curb Market where she could be seen in vibrant colors and zany hats each Saturday morning always making a point to speak to everyone she met. She was a joy to all who knew her and one not easily forgotten. Until the age of 86 she could be found with a tennis racquet in hand several times a week and took great delight in running her much younger opponents around the court. She was also an avid world traveler who visited six continents and fulfilled a lifetime dream of visiting Mongolia on a trip with her grandson, Rucker. She was a wordsmith by nature and famous for her sayings. Holy suffering cats! She was the archetypal matriarch and kept her family close with an annual two week trip to the beach. Christmas Eve celebrations were a highlight of the family's year.

One of her great pleasures was playing a variety of card games with friends and family and everyone was welcome at her daily cocktail hour. She would always lend an ear to friends from all walks of life and regale them with stories of her own adventures. She lived a wonderful life filled with joy and more than her share of heartache, but there was always a twinkle in her eye and a smile on her face—lighting up any room she entered. She was truly a woman who wore many hats. Wicky woo wow. The world won't ever be the same again now.

Eleanor was a charter member of St. Francis Episcopal Church in Greensboro. A private service will be held at Springhill Cemetery in Lynchburg, Virginia on July 18, 2020. In lieu

of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Comments



“ The Dillard's were great folks.
So surprised at the passing of son Ned two years back.
We were great friends at Mendenhall Jr. High in 1968.
Never did know what happened.
Rest in Peace.

RLC'ham - June 28 at 10:39 AM



“ Eleanor's daughter Gay was my best friend when we were little girls. Gay's mama was generous, full of energy, witty, creative, and original. She was like an opal, in my childhood, a grown-up with such marvelous color and zest. Fifty years later, I cry to know she has died.

Jane Lillian Vance - June 27 at 09:18 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Eleanor Dillard.



June 27 at 07:46 PM



“ She was an amazing lady!! She was always uplifting and always smiling! I remember how she always bragged on her family and her sweet dog Cyrus, she loved them all so much! It was a honor to have met her and I will forever miss her!!

Marcie Farmer - June 27 at 02:42 PM



“ She was an extraordinary woman! And brightened the day of everyone she met. She loved her family so much and her dog Cyrus. She always talked about them and bragged on them. I am so glad I had the chance to meet her and will never forget her! She loved life, her family and her dog Cyrus with all her heart! I will miss her forever!

Elizabeth Barker - June 27 at 02:06 PM



“ She was an amazing lady!! She was always uplifting and always smiling! I remember how she always bragged on her family and her sweet dog Cyrus, she loved them all so much! It was a honor to have met her and I will forever miss her!!

Marcie Farmer - June 27 at 02:36 PM



“ We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers! Kathy and Jim Flanigan

Kathleen Flanigan - June 27 at 01:46 PM