



## Jane Cecelia Hersey

October 5, 1929 - November 1, 2021

Jane Cecelia Hersey (nee Rhodes) of Baltimore, MD passed away on Monday, Nov. 1, 2021 at the age of 92. Born in Akron, OH to Sylvan and Mildred Rhodes, she was the oldest of six children.

Jane graduated from Kent State University and subsequently from Boston College with a master's degree in social work. There she met her husband, William (Bill) J. Hersey, Jr. They were married in 1957.

In 1968, following 11 years of Bill's military service, the couple settled in Baltimore with their 5 children when Bill began work as the first Director of Social Work at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. Upon Bill's death in 1982, Jane became an honorary committee member for the William J. Hersey Service Award at Kennedy Krieger, awarded annually to an outstanding member of the staff.

In addition to being a devoted full-time mother, Jane was a social worker with the Department of Social Services. She worked in both Baltimore City and County from 1978 until her retirement in 1992.

Jane was an avid musician. She was a member of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Choir, played mandolin with the Baltimore Mandolin Orchestra, was the church organist at St. Thomas More, sang in the St. Mary's Choir, and played piano for many senior centers. Bridge was another of Jane's passions:

She played daily, both in-person and online. She was a member of the American Contract Bridge League and achieved the ranking of Silver Life Master.

Mostly though, Jane's passion was for her family. Jane's house was the standard meeting place, especially for holidays. More than 20 friends and family would typically join her for Thanksgiving dinner despite her insistence that sauerkraut be served - an adopted Baltimore tradition, as was her love for watching the Orioles and Ravens.

Jane was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bill, and her sister Rosemary. She is survived by her sisters Virginia, Sylvia (Don) and Annette (Len), her brother John (Martha), her children Billy (Lisa), Ann, John (Debbie), Ted, and Dorothy Jane, and her grandchildren Elizabeth, Ryan (Brittany), Andrew, Rachel (Johnson), Marykate, Rebecca, and Daniel. She is dearly missed by her family and friends.

The family will host a visitation Monday, November 22, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary of the Assumption (Govans), 5502 York Rd, Baltimore. The funeral Mass will follow in the church at 10 a.m. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to support the Hersey Award Fund at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Please direct your gift to the Office of Philanthropy, Kennedy Krieger Institute, 707 N. Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21205 or [KennedyKrieger.org/Tributes](https://www.kennedykrieger.org/Tributes).

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ *Peace and comfort to the family.*

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**John and Lorraine Seiler** - November 21, 2021 at 09:29 AM

RB

“ *Ann, please accept my warmest condolences, and you are living proof that the apple does not fall far from the tree.*

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**Ronald Bane** - November 19, 2021 at 03:22 PM

TF

“ *Ted, we send our sympathies to you and your family. I felt like I knew your Mum as you spoke so highly of her. Please know we are praying for you and your family. The kids and I believe your Mum and Jeff are probably playing a few tunes in heaven! The Neisess Family*

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**The Neisess Family** - November 19, 2021 at 03:11 PM

GS

“ *Deepest condolences on your loss.*

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**Greg and Tami Schultz** - November 19, 2021 at 02:51 PM

JP

“ *Deepest sympathy to all of the family on Jane's passing. She was a, special lady a very much a "mom to all" for many of us on Lake Avenue.*

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**Joe Phebus** - November 16, 2021 at 01:38 PM

PC

“ Our family were blessed to have Jane and Bill as wonderful friends who gave us love and support as well as lots of fun. Our friendship with the Hersey family has continues over many decades and across half the world. We will all miss Jane.

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**Peter Chauvel** - November 11, 2021 at 04:15 PM

PB

“ With deepest sympathy,

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**Paul Brylske** - November 11, 2021 at 11:47 AM

SM

“ With deepest sympathies on the loss of a beautiful woman. Jane filled a room with sunshine. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.

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**Susan and Melvin** - November 11, 2021 at 09:38 AM

PP

“ Love and prayers to my dear friend Jane, and her devoted children. A beautiful soul has gone home to the Lord, and will be missed greatly. I have been blessed by our friendship, which has grown deeper over the years since we became neighbors again at Melrose. Blessed also by the love that you, her children, have shown me over those years. Grateful for all of you, Pat

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**Pat Phebus** - November 10, 2021 at 03:34 PM

SD

“ Thank you, Jane, for the many years of organ accompaniment at St. Thomas More. Though it was many years ago, I remember it as if it were yesterday. I remember, too, our tax conferences and renting an apartment at University of Maryland. You have always been so gracious. Thank you for brightening up my life. Skip Depew

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**Skip Depew** - November 10, 2021 at 02:49 PM

DB

“ So sorry for your loss.

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**Dave Brooks** - November 10, 2021 at 01:50 PM

KB

“ First, my introduction to the Hersey clan was Through Bill . He was my Field Supervisor at the Kennedy in 1970-1971 and he hired me to work for him when I graduated from the Md School of Social Work. He also adopted me into his family and I became very close to Jane and the children. Jane was the consummate mother, community volunteer . She was an active church member and played the organ and sang in the choir. She was a progressive thinker and a non judgmental friend. She laughed with me and cried with me , I babysat her children whom in turn babysat for my children. We went to lunch and dinner together for many years to maintain our friendship and we each mourned the loss of our husbands as well. I will miss my dear friend as I cannot think of who could replace her. I know each and everyone of her children will grieve her loss. May her memory be a blessing to all in the years to come.

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**Karin Batterton** - November 10, 2021 at 01:26 PM

VK

“ I became a caregiver and friend to Jane in spring of 2018. I was honored to be a part of her life until her last days, helping her loving children care for their mom in her home. I will miss her and our special days, cooking for her, taking her to appointments and playing cards. Fond memories will be mine to keep. Vivian

Vivian Kreller - November 10, 2021 at 12:36 PM

GD

“ Remember that we love and care about you

Glenn & Dawn - November 10, 2021 at 10:34 AM

KK

“ The final member of the generation before us is gone. What wonderful memories, dear cousins, they left us from our childhoods and on. I always remember singing & music at your house. Now we carry the legacy of family...let us stay close. Beyond sorry for your loss & with all my love Kathye Kelly

Kathleen Kelly - November 10, 2021 at 10:15 AM

TB

“ Ann, I am so sorry to hear about your mom. I know that she will truly be missed and know that she is in the loving arms of the Saviour. May God continue to touch your family during this time of bereavement. Rev. Tonjua Boston

Tonjua Boston - November 10, 2021 at 08:46 AM

AH

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Simplicity Cremation & Funeral Services

A Memorial Tree was planted for Jane Cecelia Hersey - November 04, 2021 at 11:28 AM