



JOSEPHINE ESHELMAN McALLISTER

August 13, 2011

Josephine Eshelman McAllister of Chevy Chase, MD, died of renal failure August 11 at age 94 in Washington, DC, surrounded by loving family. She had lived in Bethesda and Chevy Chase since 1958. Josephine (“Jo”) was born in Lancaster, PA, on June 26, 1917, to Herbert Roy Eshelman and Florence Mae Shirk. She was a graduate of the Madeira School, McLean, VA, and the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music; having studied violin since second grade, she later volunteered in several city orchestras. She held champion titles in golf at clubs in Lancaster and the Washington area and was a member of the Junior League of Lancaster, Atlanta, and Washington. Beginning in the late 1970s she enjoyed a twelve-year career in real estate. In August 1945 she married then-Lt. Cmdr. Harry M. McAllister, USNR, of Rochelle, GA (d. February 2003). They had five children in different cities as her husband pursued a medical degree in ophthalmology: Marianne McAllister Smith of Alexandria, VA (Tom D. Smith); David McAllister of Charlotte, NC (Esther Bánkúti); Helen McAllister of Chevy Chase; Jane McAllister of McLean, VA (Steve Speil); and Susan McAllister of Chapel Hill, NC (Vijay Kuruganti). In addition to her children, she is survived by a brother, William Eshelman of Lancaster, two sisters-in-law, four grandsons, and a host of nieces and nephews. Josephine was preceded in death by siblings Mary Jane Eshelman Hess, Herbert Roy Eshelman III, Helen Louise Eshelman Despard, and John David Eshelman. Her burial service in Lancaster will take place at 10 a.m. on Sunday, August 21, at Longenecker’s Reformed Mennonite Church, with her

nephew Samuel B. Eshelman presiding. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Iona Senior Services, 4125 Albemarle Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016. The family is deeply grateful to the caring staff of Iona, Capital Caring Hospice Services, and Grand Oaks Assisted Living, where she resided during her final weeks.

Tribute Wall



“ JOSEPHINE ESHELMAN McALLISTER

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Dear Mary,
To you, Nate, Ben and Tommy, as well as to David, Helen, Jane, Susie and all their Families, our sincerest condolences on the loss of your Mom - we truly empathize with you. While we haven't seen much of her lately, we remember her well from earlier times as a vivacious, smart and very sweet lady. I realize now that she was born the same year as my Dad...Sorry we can't be with you Sunday, but you all are in our thoughts and we'll get together soon.
With much Love and deepest sympathy,
Manja and John with Jonathan and Natalie*

Manja Blazer - August 20, 2011 at 07:05 AM



“ *Helen - I'm so sorry to hear this sad news of your mom passing. I know you were a great comfort to her and am glad you got to spend time with her in her final years. I think of you often and miss you back here in StL. In love and sympathy, your friend always, Kimmer*

Kim Mueller - August 19, 2011 at 08:48 AM

WD

“ Aunt Jo was a loving aunt. I remember her when she was still single and was our baby sitter. She always checked up on us over the years and always wanted the latest scoop. She was close to my Mom and when she passed on I talked to aunt Jo fairly often . She sounded exactly like her.

The Eshelman clan is really great. I remember all the events at Gramp's house. It is never easy to loose a mom or close family, but I know that when she entered heaven there was a major celebration with all of her loved ones.

*Take care and know that Connie and I are thinking about you all.
Love and sympathy, Cousin Bill D*

William Despard - August 16, 2011 at 08:40 AM