



Jean Hayes Carr

November 2, 2019

Jean (Hayes) Carr, 87, beloved wife of the late John H. Carr, Jr., of West Hartford, died Saturday, November 2, 2019 at St. Francis Hospital. Born in Hartford, the daughter of the late Francis and Dorothy (Garvey) Hayes, she was raised in Hartford, attending South West School and graduating from Bulkeley High School in 1950.

Although Jean grew up an only child, she was surrounded by many aunts and uncles who were her de facto extended family. Her closest aunt, Marianne, was younger than Jean. They were close their entire lives. Over the years, she loved spending time with her aunts and uncles and their holiday parties were nothing short of legendary.

Jean and John knew each other since they were young children, having attended the same Hartford schools together. They were married in 1955, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hartford soon after John graduated from Providence College. John's duties in the Army gave them the opportunity to travel throughout the south as well as to Germany and many European countries. Two of her sons were born at military hospitals in Germany. To this day they speak fluent German.

They moved to Vernon and eventually settled in West Hartford where four more boys were added to the household. She raised her six boys with so much love and caring, but she knew how and when to lay down the law. Not for nothing was she known as "Big Jean". She was petite in stature, but her personality, presence, and overall bearing loomed large. Anyone who knew

her could never forget her. When she was in the vicinity, you knew it. She loved being the center of attention! She was a force to be reckoned with, but also a loving and compassionate individual who easily made life-long friends. After the boys moved out, she was determined to stay busy. She held a few jobs, but it was quickly apparent that Jean was virtually unemployable. The concept of being told what to do by someone else was completely lost on her, so she simply started her own business. She successfully operated a cosmetics store in the West Hartford Center for several years.

Jean's church community was a large part of her life. She served as the President of St. Thomas the Apostle Women's Club and volunteered at the church rectory and their after-school program. Jean was also active in the community. She was a volunteer at St. Agnes Guild, the Women's Auxiliary of St. Francis Hospital, and served as President of the Bulkeley High School Alumni Association.

She and John both volunteered at the Bushnell Theater in Hartford for many years. They were very active in coordinating Bulkeley High school reunions up to and including their 65th!

When they weren't keeping active with volunteer work, they loved traveling whenever they could. They enjoyed visiting friends and family throughout the United States and particularly enjoyed traveling to Ireland with friends.

They spent many wonderful years at their cottage in Black Point Beach in Niantic, hosting summer parties and cookouts for the family, which grew over the years to include sixteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

"Gorgeous Nannie" was at her happiest when she was with her grandchildren. She always wanted to know what was going on in their lives and cherished every minute she was able to spend with them. She loved the holidays when all of them were with her. She held a special place in her heart for her granddaughters, having missed out on raising a daughter of her own. They were her "princesses", and she was "the Queen".

And did she ever love a party, especially when other members of the family could be there. It was always a special time when the Garveys from

Wethersfield, the Phelps from Bristol or the Carrs from Virginia could get together for a special occasion. It didn't matter if the occasion was a wedding or a funeral, it would always be a fun celebration (if it was the latter, the only difference was that one less person would be in attendance).

She is survived by her six sons Edward (Kathleen), Francis (Natalia), Joseph (Pamella), James (Lynn), Peter (Marie) and Stephen (Leslie); her 16 grandchildren (John "J. J.", Bridget (and her husband, J. R.), Francis "Patrick", Dennis, Elizabeth, Brendan, Terence, Joseph "J. C", Kelly, Neal, Henry, Tommy, Danny, Kevin, Madison and Shane) and two great-grandchildren (Liam and Conor). Calling hours will be Friday, November 8th from 4-7 p.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, November 9th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 872 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Burial will be private in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery. The Carr family would like to thank the wonderful staff at The McAuley Continuing Care Center for their incredible service and kindness to Mom. Also, we will always be grateful for the warm welcome she was given and the friends she made during her time there. She also never forgot her many friends at the Bishop Road condominium, where Jean and John spent so many years together. She missed them greatly and loved reminiscing about the wonderful times they had there. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to St. Thomas the Apostle School, 25 Dover Rd., West Hartford, CT 06119 or to the Humane Society, 701, Russell Rd, Newington, CT 06111. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at ww.molloyfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Calling Hours

NOV 8. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 232-1322

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle
872 Farmington Ave.
West Hartford, CT
(860) 233-8269

Tribute Wall

CI

“ Dear Carr Family,

*"Like a ship that's left its moorings
And sails bravely out to sea,
So Someone Dear has sailed away
In calm serenity;
But there's promise of a greater joy
Than earth could have in store,
For God has planned a richer life
Beyond the Unseen Shore."*

*May there be a tidal wave of Peace, Comfort and Beautiful
Memories washed
Upon Your Shores.*

With great affection,

*The Imse Family
Bob and Charlotte*

11-09-2019

Charlotte Imse - November 09, 2019 at 10:43 AM

CM

“ *To Jean's Family,*

I don't have to tell you what a large presence Jean was, but what a gift she gave to so many of us through her readiness to have fun and invitation to join in.

I had the luck to interview her just over a month ago at her apartment in McAuley as part of STA 100 Anniversary which occurs in 2020. She knew so much of the history. It was great fun to talk with her.

She was such an involved and devoted parishioner. She took me aside more than once to tell me to let her know if we needed anything extra for our STA gift giving project , The Giving Tree.

My sincere condolences. She will be missed, as is your wonderful father John.

*Carole Mulready
STA parishioner*

Carole Mulready - November 08, 2019 at 05:18 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jean Hayes Carr.*



November 08, 2019 at 03:14 PM

PB

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Big Jean was a true friend and a great-hearted person, with an incredible sense of humor. I have always felt blessed as the result of the special friendship we had. She will be missed.



Peter Blue - November 08, 2019 at 11:38 AM

GO

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy in your loss. Jean will always be remembered fondly. Peace and prayers.

Gloria OMeara

Gloria OMeara - November 07, 2019 at 09:04 PM

JE

“ Jim and Laura Engel purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jean Hayes Carr.



Jim and Laura Engel - November 07, 2019 at 04:35 PM

TA

“ Sincere condolences for your loss from the Edward J. Carr Family of Wethersfield, CT

Therese Carr Akin - November 07, 2019 at 08:49 AM

VI

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time. A lovely lady and always fun to be around! Peace! Sincerely, Ginny O'Brien

VirginiacO'Brien - November 07, 2019 at 08:27 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jean Hayes Carr.*



November 06, 2019 at 10:05 PM



“ *Family thoughts and light being sent to the Carr family from the Gerbe family. Reaching out to Peter.. Facebook Lisa Cooley.*

Lisa Cooley - November 06, 2019 at 02:57 PM



“ *While Jean and John were friends from Bulkeley, I was a defacto member of the Garvey family. I attended many parties at the Hayes' household and Frank handled our life insurance when first married. Jean was always a lot of fun and a wonderful person to know. My condolences to her family.*

*Gene Dessureau BHS '49
Bethesda, Md*

Gene Dessureau - November 06, 2019 at 01:53 PM

MK

“ To the Carr Family,

I am so sorry to hear of Jean's passing. I only knew Jean and John for the last 10 -15 years. I was involved in various St Thomas the Apostle activities with them.

Jean always lit up a room, her presence will be missed!

I am sure she is now receiving her heavenly reward!

Rest in Peace Jean!

Maureen Karlsson

Maureen Karlsson - November 06, 2019 at 12:15 PM

MC

“ To the Carr Family

So sorry to hear of Jean's passing. She was a nice person and " Big Jean" is a good way to describe her You knew when she was in the room. John was my cousin. His mother and my mother (Kathleen) were sisters and I grew up calling him "Bud" or "Buddy" Let me tell you in front of Jean he was always John and I was always corrected if I called him Bud or Buddy

Again so sorry for your loss

Mary Brett Chamberland

Mary Chamberland - November 06, 2019 at 08:20 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jean Hayes Carr.*



November 05, 2019 at 08:41 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Jeans passing we are sure she is with her love
♥♥ one
John in Heaven. God Bless the Carr
Family she will missed.*

Bertha & Ted Calabrese - November 05, 2019 at 06:15 PM