



## Jean Stewart Friar

April 15, 1919 - December 15, 2007

Friar, Jean Stewart

Jean Stewart Friar, 88, of Hartford died Saturday December 15, 2007 at Hartford Hospital. Born April 15, 1919 in Philadelphia, PA and raised in Schenectady, NY, she lived in Fairport, NY before moving to Hartford 34 years ago. Jean was the daughter of Glenn and Marcia Towne Stewart and sister of the late Doris Stewart. She earned her Bachelor of Science 1941 and Nursing 1942 degrees from the University of Rochester. After practicing as an RN and while raising her family, she earned her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Buffalo in 1964. She went on to work as a certified social worker CSW and pursue business enterprises in both New York and Connecticut. Her two sons and their wives, Glenn and Margaret of Scarborough, ME and David and Fiona of West Hartford, and her three grandchildren, Justin, Alison, and Christopher survive her. Throughout her adult life, Jean prided herself as always serving the greater good as a citizen of the community of man. She was a thoughtful, intelligent, and engaging friend to all who came to know her. Funeral services will be Thursday, December 20 at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford, beginning with visitation at 5:00 pm and closing with a brief Service of Remembrance at 7:00 pm. Online messages of sympathy and remembrance may be submitted at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to CT Children's Medical Center, 282 Washington St., Hartford, CT 06106, or the University of Rochester School of

Nursing, PO Box 278996, Rochester, NY 14627.

# Tribute Wall



“ I send my deepest sympathy to her family in the loss of Jean. She was a mentor of sorts to me when I was a young nurse working out of Montgomery Neighborhood Center in Rochester. I cherish the hours we spent at Big Stream! She has often been in my thoughts over the years. I am thankful for her friendship.##imported-begin##Gail Richeson##imported-end##

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December 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Thank you Mr. Higgins for your wonderful tribute to Jean Friar, who I knew briefly in my childhood and, happily more recently when she lived in Hartford. I feel lucky and blessed to have spent time with her early last year, and to have a sense of who she was and how she lived. I am sorry that she is gone. In my heart I will miss her as a unique individual who produced an awesome lineage. I mourn her passing and feel the loss of another family member who embodied and expressed her life and time beautifully.##imported-begin##Julie Friar##imported-end##

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December 20, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Jean Friar for 30 of her 88 years. During that time we spoke almost weekly, and I think I understood her as well as anyone was ever going to. My relationship with her was like reading War and Peace 30 times; or, more accurately, reading 30 books of the size and complexity of War and Peace.

*I know that she was a woman of faith, but not of a typical religious faith. She belonged to many churches in her life, but she was never a subscriber to a Creed and she had at best a quarrelsome relationship with the concept of god. Her deepest faith was in the ultimate decency of humanity, and her greatest anguish and disappointment was in instances of what she termed ?man?s inhumanity to man.? She used to worry, in an almost childlike way, that she might be wrong about the perfectibility of mankind. I suspect her problem with faith and faiths was that she was, in my experience, the most perfect exemplar of Jesus that I ever met. More perfect than any church she or I ever met.*

*Jean truly loved her neighbor as her self. And to be a neighbor you did not have to live next door to her, or be the same sex, color, age, ethnicity, social class, or be in a similar state of virtue. All you had to be was a fellow traveler on planet earth and come within her purview. Many were surprised, scornful and fearful of those with whom Jean associated. But like Jesus, she sat down to eat with tax collectors and sinners. She saw and responded to the common humanity in all persons as a matter of course, not as a matter of conscience. She simply did not respond negatively to differences. And I never knew her to carry a grudge against anyone, even when I did for her. She is the only person I ever knew who truly loved her enemy.*

*She was meek, she mourned for individuals and for mankind, she fed the hungry, she was merciful, pure of heart and to the extent that she could she was a peacemaker. She shared whatever she had with others believing possessions and wealth were not hers but were a common trust to be shared with those who had need.*

*Anyone who knew her and ever had need knows how she reached out to help, often silently, with no desire for reward or acknowledgment.*

*If it is indeed true that the last shall be first, she is now in the front of the line.##imported-begin##George Higgins##imported-end##*

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December 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *It has been a long time since we have seen each other or spoken. I am so sorry to hear of your loss. It is unfortunate that events, time and distance have separated all of us. It must have given your mom great pleasure to witness your many accomplishments and to watch her family grow. May you find peace in shared moments and memories.##imported-begin##Ruth Friar##imported-end##*

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December 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ ##imported-begin##Carol and Frd McKeehan##imported-end##

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *What a great lady! I have some really special memories of your mother when we were on South Main Street, and when I visited Rock Stream, as well as her later return visits to Fairport. I think I last saw her at St. Luke's. She always went out of her way to greet me and tell me about the family.*

*I'd love to hear from you, Dave, and do some catching up. Let me hear from you.*

*Thinking of all of you, especially on Thursday this week,  
Bill Keplinger##imported-begin##Bill Keplinger##imported-end##*

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May God grant you peace and comfort.

*Christian, Anna, and Enzo##imported-begin##Christian Scott##imported-end##*

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *David and Fiona Alison, Justin and Christopher: I was so very sorry to hear that Jeanne had passed away. I met her through you, David, and always found her to be the most alert, interested and interesting, and, yes, eccentric in the best possible way, of all of my friends' parents. She was a real original and I know you will miss that sparkle in her eyes. I was so fond of her and always looked forward to talking to her at your Christmas party. My thoughts are with you all at this sad time. Love, Chris##imported-begin##Chris Whitehead##imported-end##*

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *Patt & I wish to express our condolences on the passing of your mom. While we did not know her, we certainly see where your sense of community and giving come from. It's always hard to loose someone so special. May she rest in peace.*

*Charles & Patt Centore FNE##imported-begin##Charles & Patt Centore##imported-end##*

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Cristin & Daniel Auten##imported-end##

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ I will always think fondly of Jean and how much she enjoyed watching the children take part in CCMC's Ferrari Parade. It was a pleasure sitting with her in front of the hospital, offering her something cool to drink, and making sure her car was taken over to the Capital waiting for her. It was part of the ritual each year! She was very self sufficient and reading her obituary, I see what an accomplished woman she was, especially in her time - an inspiration to all of us! XO Eva##imported-begin##Eva Wickwire##imported-end##

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December 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM