



Jane Donnell Graham

March 29, 1925 - August 26, 2022

Jane Donnell Graham, age 97, died on August 26, 2022 in Boerne, Texas. Born March 29, 1925 in San Antonio, Texas, she was the youngest of ten children born to Lucile Conly Donnell and James Webb Smith Donnell. She graduated Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio in 1943 and wed John Graham on July 31, 1943 at Christ Episcopal Church, San Antonio. During WWII, they moved to Virginia, California and Connecticut. Following the war, they lived in John's native New Jersey before settling in Dallas, Texas in 1951.

Jane and John with their son John Jr. and their daughter Sally, enjoyed a rich life in Dallas filled with regular summer vacations to Michigan, many trips to the Hill Country with Jane's siblings and their families and close friendships with their neighbors on Caruth. While living in Dallas, Jane attended Southern Methodist University.

In the 1980s, Jane and John moved to Bandera, Texas where Jane spent many years working at The Frontier Times Museum. Her efforts greatly enhanced the visitor experience there. After John's death in 2011 she relocated to Menger Springs in Boerne, Texas.

Jane was an unparalleled entertainer, and merely stepping over the threshold of her front door meant you were a guest to be doted upon. The Graham

house always drew people in, whether it was as the destination for Texas/OU weekend, the “Graham Country Club” where the Highland Park High School kids liked to gather or the stone house in Bandera to which countless nieces, nephews, grandchildren, friends and neighbors escaped any time they could and where magical Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations were held. Jane could be counted on to provide delicious meals. She was famous for her chocolate chip cookies and chocolate pies. Jane was adept at making a simple meal magical and she held a well-set table in high regard.

Jane was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Colonial Dames and was named to the Yellow Rose of Texas Society by Governor Rick Perry. A Texan to her core, she recently celebrated her birthday with a large Donnell family reunion at the Flying L Guest Ranch in Bandera where she proved she was still able to crack a bullwhip at the age of 97. Jane enjoyed quilting and many of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren own pieces of her handiwork.

As the last surviving Donnell sibling, Jane was beloved by her nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews and all their spouses and children all of whom held a special place in her heart.

Jane is predeceased by her parents, her husband, all of her siblings, son-in-law Dr. Keith Douglas Peterson, various nieces and nephews and one great-grandchild, Grace Elizabeth Graham. She is survived by her son Retired Colonel John Graham (Cris), of Fredericksburg, Texas, her daughter Sally Graham Peterson, of Clarksville, Tennessee, her granddaughter Kristine Donnell Peterson Rudolph (David), of Atlanta, Georgia, her granddaughter Alice Lindsay Welder (Clark) of Fredericksburg, Texas, her grandson Keith Douglas Peterson, Jr. (Monica) of Ottawa Hills, Ohio, her granddaughter Kathryn Peterson Cartwright (Josh) of Brentwood, Tennessee and her grandson Lieutenant Colonel John Stieler Graham (Lisa) of Albuquerque, New

Mexico. She is also survived by great-grandchildren William, Margaret and Avery Jane Rudolph; Alice, Lilly and Lindsay Welder; Jack and Ellie Cartwright; Olivia, Walker and Knox Peterson; and, John Stieler and Caroline Graham.

Graveside services for Jane will be held at Mission Park North in San Antonio at 10 AM on November 5th, 2022. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jane's memory to The Frontier Times Museum, 510 13th Street, Bandera TX 78003, or Pipe Creek Presbyterian Little Rock Church, PO Box 63377, Pipe Creek, TX 78063.

Cemetery Details

Mission Burial Park North

20900 I.H. 10
West San Antonio, TX 78230

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mission Burial Park North
20900 IH 10 West
San Antonio, TX 78257

Tribute Wall

PB

“ *Sally and Johnny, your mom and dad were such an important part of our growing up - so many memories and she outlived all of our parents and friends' parents. They say only the good die young, but your mom clearly refuted that. God Bless Jane, you, your families and all who loved her. Peter Bartholow.*

Peter Bartholow - September 20, 2022 at 01:31 AM

TF

“ *In 2016 we bought Mrs. Graham's 1876 house. It was by chance that we stumbled upon her home and met her. After about an hour visit, Mrs. Graham told us we were the people who should buy her house because she knew we would honor the history and style of her home. We kept in touch with her all these years. Anytime we restored parts of the house or barn we sent her pictures and kept her updated. I sent her letters at Christmas and she would write us back. She became a friend. I will miss her letters. She was such a kind and caring person. Our deepest sympathies to the entire family.*

The Adams Family - September 10, 2022 at 05:27 PM

HJ

“ *Hi Sally, I have fond memories of fun times at your Caruth home many years ago. Sorry for your loss. I lost my Mom this past April at 102. Your Mom was a sweet lady. Hollis Jacobie*

Hollis Jacobie - September 06, 2022 at 10:02 AM