



Jacquelyn F Stevenson

December 26, 1933 - December 29, 2021

Jacquelyn F. (“Jackie”) Stevenson, née Applegate, departed this world peacefully with family by her side on December 29, 2021. It was three days after her 88th birthday and just shy of her 40th wedding anniversary with William C. (“Bill”) Stevenson of Middletown, NJ (d. 2017) on New Year’s Eve.

Jackie was the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton A. Applegate (Frances M. Cyphers) of Elberon, NJ. She graduated from Long Branch High School in 1952. The caption of her senior portrait says she was a member of the Yearbook Committee, Tri-Hi-Y and Spanish club, and had been “head twirler.” She planned “to further her education in college and perhaps become a professional swimmer.”

Jackie did achieve that first aspiration some 40 years later by earning an Associate’s degree from Brookdale Community College in 1992 and a Bachelor’s in History from Kean University in 1999.

As for swimming, while she didn’t quite go pro, Jackie was a true Jersey Shore water baby who spent her summers basically living at the beach, and served as a lifeguard in her teens. After school, she worked briefly as a telephone switchboard operator before settling down to start a family in 1953.

Jackie went on to have six children over the next 12 years. She and her first husband, Marine Corps Private First Class Ernest C. Wesch, Jr. welcomed: Ernest C. Wesch, III (d. 2014), Thomas L. Wesch (Linda A. Rosse), Wendy J. Wesch Bingle and Candy M. Wesch. With her second husband, U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Thomas F. Hanley, she had: Edward T. Hanley, II (Heidi M. Garbaccio) and Cindy L. Hanley Knoerzer (Thomas C. Knoerzer). Jackie taught all of them to swim when they were very young.

When the 1970’s arrived, Jackie was approaching middle age. Did she slow down? Just the opposite - she traded her bathing cap for a helmet and embarked on an exciting new sport: Go-Kart racing!

Zippering around the track at the New Egypt Speedway in her jaunty red racing jacket was an activity that Jackie - as Number 39 - enjoyed for many years, along with her third husband, Bill, a former pilot who had served in the U.S. Air Force as a 1st Lieutenant during the Korean War. The exuberance she radiates in photos from those days helps explain why the first car she chose for herself years later, as an elderly widow, was a red

Mustang convertible.

Jackie could spin a good yarn and often regaled her friends and family with amusing anecdotes from her exploits and excursions. She and Bill traveled extensively - abroad for pleasure, nationwide for Air Force reunions and locally for political fundraisers. Back home, they had a map of the world peppered with pins marking their myriad destinations and a sideboard display of dozens of glass vials filled with sand from each of the far-flung beaches Jackie had set toes upon.

She was also handy with a needle and thread, and put her embroidery skills to generous use crafting personalized Christmas stockings and ornaments for as many family members as she could over the past few decades. Jackie's expansive legacy includes 14 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great granddaughter! She also leaves behind her dachshund, Oscar (as in: Oscar Mayer wiener), who was her constant companion in her golden years.

A visitation will be held at the Hoffman Funeral Home, 415 Broadway, Long Branch on Saturday, January 8, 2022 from 10am until 11:30am. Interment will follow at Stevenson Family Cemetery, Nutswamp Rd., Middletown, NJ. The wearing of face masks is greatly appreciated.

Events

JAN **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:30AM

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Hoffman Funeral Home

415 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ, US, 07740

Comments



“ The last 4 years has really meant so much to me. Nana and I spent a lot of time getting to know each other and it blossomed into a great friendship. She would call me to tell me how big her elephant ears were getting that I planted for her, or she would call to ask about other plant care. I was blessed to spend a week with her the week before she got her wings. I have spent weekends with her when she was in Florida, but the week I spent in VA, will always be the most special to me. Love you so much nana!! I will always miss you!



Tiffany Haigh - January 08 at 09:42 AM



“ Candy lit a candle in memory of Jacquelyn F Stevenson



Candy - January 08 at 09:36 AM



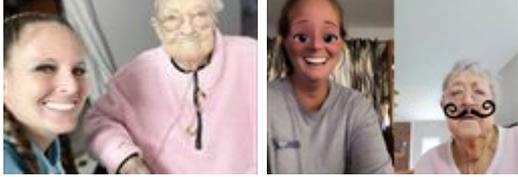
“ 1965 long branch Beach.



Candy - January 08 at 09:35 AM



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Tiffany Haigh - January 08 at 08:58 AM



“ I have fond memories of the time Jackie came to visit for Christmas, 2018. We hung her stocking at the center of our mantel, flanked by the ones she made for each of us. We had miniature versions on the tree, too, along with many other ornaments she gave us over the years - notably, the souvenir from Radio City Music Hall where she took me to see the Rockettes.

The majority of our Christmas decorations came from Jackie, actually, and most are quite lovely. But, for some reason she switched gears that year and gave us a motion sensor snowman that, uh, “cracks” jokes at anyone using the bathroom. Ed thinks it’s hilarious.

We went to brunch in our “ugly” Christmas sweaters - Jackie accessorized with a strand of big, blinking, colored lights!

Cindy and her whole family joined us for Christmas dinner: four generations celebrating together! Somehow, Kyle ended up at the kids’ table, but the rest of us got to dine on the Royal Doulton china Jackie had handed down to Eddie and me when we got married.

For her 85th birthday, we took her to an oyster bar and feasted on some of the fresh Atlantic shellfish she was missing in Florida, where “everything is fried.” Then it was on to Cindy’s for the coronation and cake!

Jackie’s choice of entertainment that week was a Grand Ole Opry show marathon - a first for us; a favorite of hers. The Grand Ole Opry’s motto is: The Circle Can’t be Broken. The time we spent together that year helped make that come true for our family.



Heidi Hanley - January 06 at 11:06 AM



“ CISA Teammates & Friends of Ed Hanley purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Jacquelyn F Stevenson.



CISA Teammates & Friends of Ed Hanley - January 06 at 07:48 AM



“ Love's Tapestry was purchased for the family of Jacquelyn F Stevenson.



January 05 at 09:04 PM



“ Finest Farewell Spray was purchased for the family of Jacquelyn F Stevenson.



January 05 at 06:50 PM

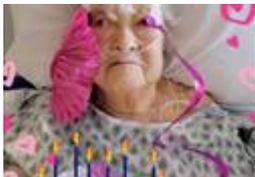


“ I'm afraid I have way too many memories to share: when I was five we were moving from Oakhurst to Avon, but had to live my Grandparent's garage for the summer until the Avon house was ready. Aunt Fran, Uncle Carl, Jackie and Carl were living in their basement because they had rented out their Elberon home for the summer. I got chicken pox and they often put Jackie in charge of making sure I never got out of bed. She was 15 and a real taskmaster!!! There was a real canvas hammock out side. She and Carl would wind me up in it and spin it 360 degrees for a long time! I could write a book.

Elaine Weeden - January 05 at 05:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the album 88th birthday fun



cindy - January 05 at 03:51 PM