



Mrs. Jean Washam

December 25, 1923 - January 18, 2012

Jean Washam of Asheville died peacefully at her home on Wednesday, January 18, 2012. The cause of death was determined to be an unexpected heart attack. Resuscitation efforts by the Mission Emergency staff, though valiant, proved unsuccessful.

Jean Washam was born on December 25, 1923, a true child of Christmas. Daughter of the late James and Florence Longden Ainsley of Masontown, Pennsylvania, she was one of a family of nine children.

Graduating from Masontown High School, she continued on to West Penn University's nursing school in Pittsburgh, PA. As a registered nurse, Jean pursued her nursing career at both the Cleveland Clinic and the University of Michigan Hospital. She met, and later married Dick Washam, her husband of almost 60 years, while Head Nurse of the Internal Medicine floor of the University of Michigan Hospital. Their life together began with their marriage in 1952, and through the years found residences in Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota, Connecticut and New York, followed by retirement in Asheville, North Carolina in 1992.

Jean's life has been one of loving and caring for family and friends, and for all those persons her life met and touched.

Jean and Dick have been blessed with three lovely daughters, Kimberly Washam of Portland, ME, Krista Washam Lablue of Asheville, NC, and Karen Dobrinski of Hopkinton, MA. They are the proud grandparents of three grandchildren, Katie and Ryan Dobrinski and Rebekkah Lablue.

During Jean's lifetime she felt the loss of both parents, three brothers and four sisters. She is survived by her youngest sister, Mary Ann Lessner of Howell, Michigan, her loving husband, Dick, their three children and three grandchildren. Patches, a German Short Haired Pointer, the most recent addition to the family and beloved companion, like Jean, befriends and loves everyone he encounters.

The family will receive friends at Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue, on Sunday evening from 5-7pm. A memorial service will be held at 11am Monday morning at the Central Union Methodist Church on Church Street, followed by interment at Riverside Cemetery. Afterwards, we invite friends and family to our home to share tears and laughter in memory of a beautiful, loving and gentle spirit.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made through the family to the children of Covenant House and/or the American Heart Association.

Morris Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be sent through the website www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

53 Birch Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 22. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Chapel of Morris Funeral Home
304 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 252-1821
info@morrisfamilycare.com
<http://morrisfamilycare.com>

Service

JAN 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

Central United Methodist Church
27 Church Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Jean Washam*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *My sympathy to her family and loved ones. I will miss her visits to my office, when I saw her on my patient schedule at (Victoria Urologic), I looked forward to visiting with her and she was such a sweet lady, it was a pleasure to care for her. She will be missed. Karen Frye MD.*

Karen Frye - January 22, 2012 at 06:49 PM



“ *Dick,
I am so sorry to hear of Jean's sudden death. In the several months I knew her, I found Jean to be kind and engaging. My deepest sympathy to you and all of Jean's loved ones.*

Nancy Orban, Rollingwood Rd., Asheville

Nancy Orban - January 21, 2012 at 12:34 PM



“ *You will be sorely missed! I have fond memories of you and my grandma, Hannah when you all would reunite with each other and spend a week together. I got to see you and Uncle Dick when it was Hannah's turn to host the reunion. Remember the 2001 Ainsley reunion? That was fun too! God Bless!*

-Dominique

Dominique Badel Benson - January 21, 2012 at 11:45 AM