



Fanne Kehoe Smith

November 17, 1931 - November 17, 2014

Fanne's spirit left her family and friends on her 83rd birthday, November 17, 2014, five days after suffering a severe brain hemorrhage. Her final days were spent surrounded by family and friends that she had loved and touched so deeply throughout her life.

Born on November 17, 1931 in Cleveland, Ohio, Fanne was the daughter of John Gardner Kehoe and Frances Brandt Kehoe. After graduating from Fairview High School in Dayton, Ohio, she entered The Ohio State University and graduated with honors in 1953.

In addition to Mortar Board honors at Ohio State, Fanne played varsity field hockey, served as president of the Student Government Association, and for three years was in charge of community service projects for her Delta Zeta sorority.

Fanne taught for three years in the Euclid, Ohio public schools. She then enrolled in Columbia University's Graduate School. At Columbia, she met her future husband. She and Carey Smith were married in August 1958.

Fanne and her husband became New York State residents for 40 years with the last 35 in Floral Park, Long Island. It was there that their five children were nurtured, and after all of them reaching school age, Fanne returned to teaching with the Sewanhaka School District.

In 1998 Fanne and Carey retired to Tallahassee, Florida. Fanne saw retirement as an opportunity to serve the less fortunate. She was successful! For more than 14 years, she averaged over 30 hours a week as a volunteer;

two days a week at PACE Center for Girls and two days a week at ECHO Outreach Ministries. Annually her name appeared among the Volunteer of the Year nominations and last year, Governor Scott awarded her the 'Champion of Service' Award, recognizing Fanne's lifetime commitment to volunteerism and countless hours of community service.

Fanne's "free time" focused on church, family, theatre, and Seminole sports. She was a member of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church and the Ed Wynn Sunday School class. Her faith was strong and she believed one should live according to the Sermon on the Mount, the Ten Commandments, and the Easter Resurrection.

Fanne is survived by her loving husband of 56 years, Carey Smith; son Bradley Smith, Indianapolis, IN; daughter Ellen Smith Farrell and son-in-law Craig Farrell, Tallahassee; son Nathan Smith, Tallahassee; daughter Jennifer Smith Philley, Louisville, KY; and daughter Meg Smith, Tallahassee. Her grandchildren are Dylan and Brooke Farrell of Tallahassee; and Jacob, Calvin, Jonah, and Jordan Philley of Louisville, KY. Also surviving are her brother Brandt Kehoe of Cambria, CA and JacSue Kehoe Ascher of Paris, FR.

It was Fanne's wish to have her body donated to the FSU School of Medicine and any observance following her death be limited to her family. Persons desiring to make a donation honoring Fanne's memory may consider ECHO Outreach Ministries, 702 West Madison St., Tallahassee, FL 32304 or PACE Center for Girls, 1344 Cross Creek Cir., Tallahassee, FL 32301.

Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home (www.bevisfh.com or 850-308-2193) is assisting the family with their arrangements.

Tribute Wall

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“ I was so sorry to hear of Fan's passing. Perhaps my earliest memory is being at the beach with both of our families and no-nonsense Fan definitely being in charge. Over the years I have been repeatedly inspired as I heard through my mom of her volunteer activities. I send sincere condolences and my hat's off to her wonderful life.

Sallie Hughes - February 15, 2015 at 07:46 AM

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“ I learned just yesterday of Fanne's passing. She was the strongest woman I have ever known. As a young child, Mrs. Smith was my second mother. I have so many happy memories of times spent with the Smith family -- memories that are retold with love by my mother, my sister and me. While I am saddened by our loss, I know that she is with God ensuring that everything in Heaven is proceeding as planned! I love you Mrs. Smith and will miss you until we meet again.

My deepest condolences to the Smith family, Carey, Bradley, Ellen, Nathan, Meg and Jenn. May God bless you and keep you in the palm of his hand during this very difficult time.

Cindy Hughes

Cindy Hughes - December 26, 2014 at 05:17 AM