



Jane Stubbs Bailey 1934-2008

Jane Stubbs Bailey, retired high school guidance counselor and genealogist of Columbia, MD, died at the Gilchrest Center for Hospice Care in Towson on Thursday, January 24. A memorial service and burial of her ashes took place February 2 at Christ Episcopal Church, Columbia, MD.

Jane was born in Norfolk, VA June 13, 1934, to Irving P. Stubbs and Lillian Howell Stubbs. She graduated valedictorian of her Granby High School class in Norfolk, VA and received a bachelor's degree in 1956 from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She earned a Master's degree in history from Emory University in Atlanta. She taught briefly in Norfolk and Richmond, VA schools and served as a historical writer for Virginia Cavalcade magazine.

Jane and John Bailey met at the University of Virginia and were married on April 9, 1960 at the Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church in Norfolk. Until November, 1976, the Baileys lived in Beloit, WI, where Dr. Bailey was on the faculty of Beloit College. They had two children there, Leslie and Brian.

Jane earned a Master's degree in secondary counseling at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 1972. She served as a guidance counselor in Beloit schools from then until 1976 when they moved to Columbia, MD. Jane served as a guidance counselor in Montgomery County schools until her retirement in 1990. After her retirement, Jane did genealogical research and published information on her Stubbs and related families.

Jane loved to travel. She and John visited or lived in Europe and vacationed frequently in the Caribbean. She loved beaches, people and music. She was known to many for her openness, humor, and concern for other people. She was an involved member of Christ Episcopal Church.

Jane is survived by her mother, Lillian Stubbs, of Williamsburg, VA; her husband, John, of Columbia; a daughter and son-in-law, Leslie and Michael Streissguth of Syracuse, NY; a son and daughter-in-law, Brian and Amy Miller Bailey, of Fairfax, VA; and her brother, Irving R. Stubbs, of Richmond, VA. She is also survived by five grandchildren, Emily, Cate and Will Streissguth, of Syracuse and Chase and Claire Bailey, of Fairfax and many nieces and nephews.

July 09 – Notes on our Family Beach Event to Celebrate Jane's 75h.

In addition to her passion for genealogy and her deep love for her family, Jane held a passion for the ocean and the beach. Just before her death, her husband John and I promised Jane that we would gather our two families together at a beach to celebrate her passions. John took the lead on this and stimulated our families to act on this promise.

In June, Jane would have been 75. In her honor, we gathered at Duck, N.C. at the end of June. The number of Jane's family and mine is 29. Jane's daughter-in-law and one of Jane's grandsons had to drop out at the last minute but 27 of us gathered for most of that week. We had a ball. It was the kind of family fun that Jane would have relished. John brought some of Jane's cremation remnants and after dinner one evening, we all had a hand in scattering some of her remnants on the Duck beach.

Jane and I wanted our families to be close. We gathered together on several occasions in past years but with new additions and increasing family complexity, it had become difficult to manage such events. What turned out to be special about this one, in addition to honoring Jane, was the genuine caring and sharing we witnessed among the 27. For Jane and me, that is what family is about.

Jane's daughter, Leslie, downloaded the comments that hundreds of people made on CaringBridge during Jane's illness. She brought that journal and I read all of them. 12,703 visits were made to that site created by Jane's son, Brian. Many comments were offered. I wrote down just a few that I would like to share with you. "You are a light shining in a world where most choose to look the other way." Sarah Hall Kevin Duffus noted that his book was, "Dedicated to John Oden, Jane Bailey and Allen Norris and researchers like them who have the courage to peer into the darkness of the past with open minds." Robert Stubbs of Carthage, MO wrote: "You are the glue that binds all of our many Stubbs cousins together."

We felt Jane's spirit among us at Duck as we celebrated her life and her light at her 75th. Birthday. Her memory and her many caring contributions linger among even more of us. She was special!

Irving R. Stubbs