



Jane Avolyn DeGuire Stephens

February 15, 1919 - December 27, 2024

Jane Avolyn DeGuire Stephens Age 105 passed away December 27, 2024, at Chateau Girardeau, where she had happily resided for 14 years. She was born February 15, 1919, in Bismark, Mo. to Frank H. DeGuire and Avolyn “Casey” DeGuire.

Jane Grew up in Fredericktown, Mo. and attended The University of Missouri where she was a proud Tri Delta Sorority member.

Jane met and married Herbert L. Stephens from Peoria, Ill. May 1, 1940. To that union two children were born: Susan D. Elrod and Michael P. Stephens. Jane and her husband moved to Cape Girardeau in October 1967 to open The Flaming Pit Restaurant where they later retired in 1981.

She was active in her church, St. Vincent DePaul as a Eucharistic Minister. She Volunteered at St. Francis Medical Center and Cape Convention and Visitors Bearu among many other things. She enjoyed traveling and playing golf but mostly was dedicated and actively involved with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Survivors include her daughter Susan D. Elrod and daughter-in-law Martha Stephens both of Cape Girardeau; Grandson, Patrick (Yumi) Stephens of Hitachi, Japan; Granddaughter Sarah (Jim) Dix of Festus, Mo.; Great

Grandson Seth Stephens of Colombia S.C.; Zachery Stephens of Pearl, MS.; Great Granddaughter Chelsea Stephens of San Antonio, TX. Great-Great Grandchildren Asley Stephens, Maggie and Lucy Dix, Nora Stephens, Paxton, Gemma and Anova Stephens.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son and grandson Samuel L. Stephens.

Visitation will be held 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, January 11, at Ford and Sons Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau, with a graveside to follow.

Burial at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial contributions may be given to charity of choice.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 11. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Funeral Homes
1001 N Mt Auburn Rd
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-3455
(573) 334-1313

Graveside Service

JAN 11. 12:00 PM (CT)

Cape County Memorial Park
2315 Highway 61 N
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall



“ I met Jane and Herb in the 70's when I worked for them at the Flaming Pit . My friendship with their family has lasted from that time . I'm blessed our paths crossed. Jane was a lovely lady who always had a smile and loved her family dearly. We shared many fun times together and I will always cherish her friendship. Nancy Hess

Nancy Hess - January 08, 2025 at 06:02 PM



“ Dear Susan and Martha,
How I enjoyed Jane! She brought warmth and laughter to any corner of the Chateau that she entered. Even the most downhearted would laugh when she stopped to speak to them.

She certainly enjoyed dominoes with you two in the corner of the second floor. Valentine's cookie sales (a fund raiser for the Foundation) were always a hit with her. She was our most generous purchaser...always sharing them with family and friends.

She was so proud of all her children, spouses, grand children, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren. Having worked with Martha and knowing that I could turn to Mike at the post office when I had something to mail to an unusual country or having taught Patrick and Yumi as students and having taught with Martha....were all sources of stories to share!

The world, especially the Chateau, has lost a great humanitarian, a kind and gentle woman who could find humor in each days. She is missed!

Adelaide Parsons - January 05, 2025 at 02:36 PM

NB

“ How I loved, enjoyed and admired my Tri Delta sister Jane ! I had the pleasure of knowing her from the time she and Herb moved to Cape. Then what a treat it has been to reconnect with her at Chateau Girardeau. I shall miss her so much with you, Susan and Martha.

nancy Bray - December 31, 2024 at 04:18 PM

JC

“ Susan your Mother was a wonderful friendly person. She always talked with me at the Pit, a group of us from Ford used to go over there after work a couple times a week. Your Dad was always joking around too. She lived a wonderful life and you were lucky to have her around for so long. Heaven was her next and final stop and she will watch over you every day of our life!

Judi Coleman - December 31, 2024 at 01:25 PM

MM

“ I have many wonderful memories of being in the Flaming Pit after rehearsal for the J C Follies. Also had a lot of fun playing dominoes with Jane later in her life.

Mary Meier - December 30, 2024 at 06:41 PM

MN

Ohhh so sad to hear you lost your beautiful, sweet, gentle mom. She always loved it when you had your friends over; talked and giggled with us.

Martha A. Neiner - January 02, 2025 at 07:18 PM



I have fond memories working with Jane in the Gift Shop at Saint Francis Medical Center. Such a special lady full of life and fun. She has touched many people with her wit and smile. I feel blessed to have know and worked with her.

Mona Nenninger - January 9 at 9:36 am

Mona Nenninger - January 09, 2025 at 10:37 AM