



## Elizabeth Perkins VanKirk

January 24, 2013

Elizabeth Perkins VanKirk 81 of Fort Valley died Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at her home. Services will be private. Mrs. VanKirk was born in Pittsburgh, PA on January 2, 1932, the daughter of the late Charles and Elma Perkins Pickering. She was a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She was active in many church and community activities where she lived in Pennsylvania and Virginia. Mrs. VanKirk is survived by her husband, Dr. James K. VanKirk of Fort Valley; two sons, James K. VanKirk, Jr. of Maine and Robert S. VanKirk of Texas; three daughters, Katherine Storm of Pennsylvania, Rebecca Neslund of Alaska, and Margaret Reneslakis of Georgia; a sister, Jane Beering of Indiana; nineteen grandchildren. The family requests that in lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to a charity of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

JT

“ Dear Uncle Jim, Kathy, Becky, Jimmy, Meg and Bobby, So sorry to hear about Aunt Betty passing away. She will always be missed. She was a special Aunt. I thought of her as being like Maria in Sound of Music. She loved kids and tried to do different things to help them be better persons. She always liked to take long walks with the kids and the dogs too. She was a good cook and a great hostess. I remember her baking her famous homemade fugde and sending it to me when I was in college and then she even did it for my 3 girls when they were in college too. She always had a great big smile when she met you at the door , when you came to visit. We will always be thankful for all she did for our family. You are all in our prayers! May God bring you comfort, love, and many blessings! Janet and Michael Thompson

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**Janet and Michael Thompson** - February 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Dr. Vankirk and Meg, We are very sorry for your loss. The McNew family from Chambersburg

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**DeDe (McNew) Estes** - January 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Dr. VanKirk and Bobby, I am very sorry to hear of your loss. My sympathies to the family, God Bless. Lori (McNew) Chavis

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**Lori McNew Chavis** - January 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear Jim-Linda and I were indeed saddened to learn of Betty's passing. She was a very special lady and we are better off having known her. We know there will be a big hole in your lives that can never be filled. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Please let us know if we can ever be of help to you.

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**Don and Linda Sawyer** - January 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Dear Dr. Van Kirk and Family, We have fond memories of all of you when you lived in Chambersburg. With you we celebrate Betty's wonderful life and pray for each of you. Sharing in your grief,  
Gretchen and Mary Mackey

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**Gretchen Mackey** - January 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Dear Dr Van Kirk and Family: Stephen, Kimberly, and myself are very sorry to hear about the passing of your wife, Elizabeth. Our prayers and deepest condolences are with you and your families at this time in your hours of want and need. We wanted to thank you for all the good professional care you provided to the family over the years and especially my Husband Donald while he was living. May the good Lord and his blessings be with you now and always.

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**Elizabet Franklin** - January 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ We were just reminiscing about the VanKirk family a few weeks ago when we passed your Chambersburg home. It was such a pleasure to have the children in my physics class and to learn to know their gracious parents. May the love of Jesus surround you and give you peace in this time of great loss. Sharon and Jim Goetz

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**Sharon and Jim Goetz** - January 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Bob and I have been thinking of you and your family, Jim, ever since we read in our local paper that Betty died. Our sympathy goes out to all of you love Bob and Jane

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**Jane & Bob Wingerd** - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ We were so sorry to hear of Mrs. VanKirks passing. You were a wonderful family and we are so glad we got to know you through the Y and Dr. VanKirk as our doctor. We are thinking of you and send you our love.

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**Karen and Dick Alsedek** - January 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ My sympathy to Dr. VanKirk and the family. My family was part of the "old" neighborhood and when I worked at the Stanley I would run up there at lunch time. Your dogs were always walking on your little corner of the world there. One day I came out of work and there was a dog by my car. I said to the dog oh my goodness you should not be down here I'll take you home. I opened the door and he jumped in and sat down all ready to go. His wet nose kept hitting me on the back of the head. I ran him up to your house and Mrs. VanKirk happened to be out. I pulled up and said I have your dog in here. She took one look inside and said that's not our dog! We laughed but being the gracious person she was said she would find who it belonged to. May your many memories carry you through the days ahead.

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**Constance Holland Cullison** - January 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Jim ; It is with great sorrow we learned of Betty's passing, Our thoughts and prayers will be with you. Murray & Madeline.

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**Murray & Madeline Selby** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ In so many ways, each of you left your mark on the CASD and on the people with whom you interacted. I appreciated the role model Betty set for me as a mother and as an educational activist. She inspired me to do better job on many fronts. As students, all of the children, and as friends to my children, all of you exemplified an ideal. In many respects, your family was the first family of Chambersburg, and Betty was the mother we all aspired to be. I send my sympathy for your loss, but I know she lives on through all of you. It was a pleasure. Chris Butler

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**Christine Anderson Butler** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ For Dr. VanKirk: We are sorry to hear of your wife passing away. We were some of your patients in Chambersburg, Pa. We miss having you in Chambersburg. You were a wonderful doctor. Our prayers are with you as you go through this tough time in your life. God Bless you and your family. Jim, Dorothy, Steve & Carol Lane

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**James D. Lane** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Dr. VanKirk, Kathy, and all-- God Bless all of you in the loss of Mrs. VanKirk. Miss having you all in Chambersburg. We all remember your great services--Dr. VanKirk and your friendships (Kathy) on McKinley Street. My mother passed in 2009...I know the sorrow that you are going through. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all of the family. Rachel Heintzleman Brensinger (Chambersburg) and Rick Heintzleman (North Wales, PA)

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**Rachel Heintzleman Brensinger** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Sorry to hear of Elizabeth's passing. I always called her "Mrs. Van Kirk." I called Gay this morning because she doesn't get the Public Opinion. I remember when the Peters family visited "the farm" and when you had puppies in a playpen at your house. I could always count on Kathy's mom helping me decide what the girls could and could not do--she always made WISE decisions. Gay still keeps in touch with Ann Humelsine McBride. Beverly Peters

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**Beverly Peters (Mrs. Gaylord)** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in your time of sorrow. Elmer & Isabel Drawbaugh

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**Elmer and Isabel Drawbaugh** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Dear Kathy, We were so sorry to learn of your mother's death. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. I enjoyed reconnecting with you in Winston-Salem. You were a part of home in a new place. Drop me an email and let us know how things are going. As Always, Anita and Jack MacNeill

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**Anita Hartzell MacNeill** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Dear Kathy and VanKirk family, I lift you all up to our Lord and Savior, asking for peace for each of you during this time. I wanted to share a few memories of Mrs VanKirk that flooded my mind, the fast clicking of her knitting needles at the swim meets, I sat beside her a few times and ask if I could watch. She would smile and say yes, but said no more. I remember a time when I came to your house, knocked on the door and ask if you (Kathy) could come out and play. She said Kathy had to practice her piano first but that I could wait, I sat on the porch and listened to your beautiful music while I waited. There was a day I was traveling to an away swim meet with you, we ate hamburgers before leaving, and had a chocolate bar on the way. Treasure your memories of a wonderful Mother. My sympathy goes out to you. Ruthie

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**Ruthie Logan Davenport** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ Dear Jim, I was so sorry to hear of you mom's passing. I just wanted you to know that I am thinking of you and your family at this sad time. Kathy (Hogle) Peiffer

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**Kathy (Hogle) Peiffer** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Dear Dr. VanKirk: I was so very sorry to hear of your wife's passing. You (along with Dr. Rahouser) were my family doctors from the time of my birth through your retirement. Becky was a classmate of mine. You always had such a kind manner about you. I will keep you and your family in my prayers. Beth Ann Rotz Mattern, Chambersburg, PA

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**Beth Rotz Mattern** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Dear Dr. VanKirk, Kathy, Becky, Jim, Meg, and Bobby~ I happened to be in C-burg this morning and read of Betty's passing in the Public Opinion. Immediately~ yearly family photo (before they were popular ) Christmas cards , a long ago visit to "the farm," Trivial Pursuit in your living room on McKinley Street, Miss Ross piano recitals, and years of swimming lessons and life guarding at the Municipal Pool~ memories flooded my mind and heart. I will always remember your dear mom as a very strong, no nonsense, modestly dressed, well mannered lady who passionately LOVED and was fully DEVOTED to her busy doctor hubby and very active children. I'm SURE that she was an amazing Grandma to her nineteen grandchildren. I will be praying for all of you as you grieve and transition to a new normal over the next few months. Phil: 4:7~ May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. With Sympathy~ Shari Kramer Bentzel

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**Shari Kramer Bentzel** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Dear Dr. VanKirk & Family: We express our deepest sympathy on the passing of your wife (Elizabeth) and mother of five children. You are in our thoughts and prayers at this most difficult time. Sincerely,  
Dalton & Julie Paul 1432 Laurelton Court North Field - Menno Haven Campus Chambersburg, PA 17201-4058

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**Dalton E. & Julie Paul** - January 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM