



## Marian Claire "Vaeth" Van Ryne

January 19, 1932 - March 19, 2023

Marian Claire (Vaeth) Van Ryne, born January 19, 1932, passed away on March 19, 2023. Marian was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Gerald E. Van Ryne (Jerry) and her mother and father, Frank and Mary Vaeth and brother Robert Vaeth. She and her husband both served their country faithfully and were retired from the CIA.

Marian is survived by her daughter, Donna V. Gresh, and Son-in-law, Donald A. Gresh, Jr of Blacksburg, VA.; a son Mark Van Ryne and daughter-in-law, Therese Van Ryne of Barrington, IL.; Grandchildren Erika Gresh, Danielle Gresh (Ellie), Donald A. Gresh, III (Trey), Emily Gresh, Alexis Van Ryne, Jared Van Ryne, MacKensi Van Ryne, and a great-grandson, Donald A. Gresh, IV (Drew).

Marian was born and raised in Baltimore, MD, and graduated from Strayer business college. Marian joined the Foreign Service, and her first assignment was in Bangkok, Thailand. She traveled the world including, Vientiane, Burma, Singapore, and Malaysia. She was later assigned to Kampala, Uganda, and later to Ethiopia where she worked for Undersecretary of State, G. Mennen Williams.

During her travels, she met her eventual husband, Jerry, at a casual Embassy party in the United States. While Jerry was stationed in Kigali, Rwanda, and

Marian was in Nairobi, Kenya, he proposed to Marian and they married in Nairobi. They were later reassigned to Miami Florida where their son, Mark, was born. Jerry was then assigned to Blantyre, Malawi, where Marian would eventually give birth to a daughter, Donna. In 1970, they were temporarily assigned to the Washington DC office, and they purchased a house in Annandale, VA. Jerry was then sent to Katmandu, Nepal as Chief of Station. They later returned to Washington, DC, and resided in Annandale, VA for the rest of their careers. Jerry passed away in 2006, and subsequently, Marian relocated to Christiansburg, VA to be closer to family.

The family would like to give special thanks to the angels of Medi Hospice. Their compassion and kindness were invaluable. A mass will be held at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Annandale, VA on Friday, April 14, 2023, at 10:00 AM. Burial will occur immediately thereafter at Fairfax Memorial Cemetery at 11:30 AM.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Medi Hospice, 141 East Main Street, Suite 500, Pulaski, VA 24301.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairfax Memorial Cemetery

9900 Braddock Rd  
Fairfax, VA 22032

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

APR 14. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Michaels Catholic Church  
7401 St Michaels Ln  
Annandale, VA 22003

# Tribute Wall

EG

“ I just learned of Marian's passing. I was her caregiver from Home Instead and really enjoyed hearing of the interesting life she led. Prayers to her family that meant the world to her.

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Ellen Grasso - May 17, 2023 at 04:47 PM

MJ

“ I knew Mrs. Van Ryne as a teenager as I went to high school with Donna and her brother Mark. She and Mr. Van Ryne were always very kind and gracious to me. Life took us in different directions, as it happens. But, in present day I am blessed by my close friendship with Donna. Mrs. Van Ryne gave me a gift in having that friend, and I'm forever grateful.

Michele Joseph Haymon

“Death is not the opposite of life, but a part of it.” Haruki Murakami

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michele joseph - March 24, 2023 at 08:03 PM

JB

“ We were very fortunate to have known Marian the last 8 years of her life. She was so interesting relating stories of her adventures in various places. I loved visiting her and learning about her life. We became close friends in short time. I miss her dearly. She always talked about her care and love for family members. Sympathy, prayers and love to all. Judy and Eddie Baker

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Judy and Eddie Baker - March 24, 2023 at 06:38 PM