



Fay J. Van Wie

June 19, 1935 - September 18, 2016

Fay was born in New Bedford, Mass., to Fred and Mildred Cowell (née Oesting) on June 19, 1935. She grew up in East Hartford, Conn., and graduated from Endicott College in Beverly, Mass. After college, she worked for Pratt and Whitney and the Connecticut Atomic Nuclear Energy Laboratory (CANEL), where she met some of her lifelong friends, with whom she enjoyed summers at the beach, (après) ski trips, and Caribbean adventures, before venturing off to join the Foreign Service. Through her time in the Foreign Service, Fay travelled the world and worked at American embassies. She met her husband, William, “Bill” Van Wie, Jr., an Army officer, while both were assigned to the American embassy in Quito, Ecuador. They were married in Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford, Conn., during the blizzard of January 1965 and promptly assigned to the embassy in Rome, Italy, for two years, which she called her “two-year honeymoon.” Together, they traveled extensively for work and pleasure and lived in Kabul, Afghanistan; Honolulu, Hawaii; and Ankara, Turkey, before finally settling in Annapolis, Md. Fay worked for the Maryland Historical Trust for nearly 30 years before retiring to the good life. She enjoyed an active retirement with a great group of friends at the Villages of Emerald Bay in sunny Naples, Fla.

Fay loved to dance and studies local dance styles in each country where she lived. She worshipped the sun, sand, and sea. Fay enjoyed travel, music, water aerobics, Zumba, art festivals, and shopping with her girlfriends, and

hosting dinners and impromptu parties for her friends and loved ones.

She was predeceased in 1997 by her husband of 32 years, William J. Van Wie, Jr., CW3 U.S. Army (Ret.). She is survived and will be greatly missed by her adoring children, son William F. Van Wie of Annapolis, Md., and daughter Justine E. Van Wie of Chevy Chase, Md.; her longtime friend and companion, Francis X. Murphy; three grandsons, Jackson, Dylan, and Max Van Wie; several nieces and nephews; and numerous friends around the country.

A burial service in Arlington National Cemetery will take place at a date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to Avow Hospice, 1095 Whippoorwill Lane, Naples, FL 34105 (www.avowcares.org).

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA 22211

<http://arlingtoncemetery.mil>

Tribute Wall



“ *Fay J. Van Wie*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Dear Justine, William, Frank and Family,*

May your faith sustain you and may the love and prayers of those who care comfort you.

Fay was a kind and forgiving person. She will be missed.

Rest in peace Fay.

John and Janice Petrek

Janice Petrek - October 06, 2016 at 01:58 PM



“ *Our prayers and thoughts go out to all of Fay's family, Frank and friends. Our deepest sympathy. Lisa & Phil*

Phil Willman - September 25, 2016 at 12:58 PM



“ *You are loved and missed but never far from our hearts. Thanks for being my second mom growing up. Rest in peace. We will keep your spirit and memories alive.*
Lisa and the Weaver clan.

Lisa Weaver - September 22, 2016 at 09:26 AM

RC

“ *Our prayers and thoughts go out to all.
Justine, Frank and family our deepest condolences.*

Ray and Anne

Ray Celentano - September 21, 2016 at 10:11 AM

PR

“ *wrong email for patricia ritrovato. it is patritro2@gmail.com. please change the other and share our condolences to William, Justine and frank that was sent a few minutes ago. thank you patricia m. ritovato*

patricia ritrovato - September 20, 2016 at 09:29 AM

PR

“ *to Justine, William and frank from your auntie pat, your uncle paul was trying to comfort me over the loss of your loved one, quote: "I just know that fay would want us to go on and get the good things we can from life. she was almost always upbeat. she got to enjoy a dozen years with her grandsons and was very proud of her son and daughter and appreciated the companionship of frank." I miss her so much. auntie pat*

patricia m. ritrovato - September 20, 2016 at 09:18 AM

JG

“ *Rest in peace Fay.*

Jan Gowing

Janet Gowing - September 20, 2016 at 09:02 AM