



## Elizabeth Rich Trapnell

November 10, 1921 - July 6, 2015

Elizabeth Rich Flannery Trapnell (Liz) passed peacefully with her children close by on Monday, July 6 at 93 years of age. She was born in Perryville, Maryland in 1921 to Charles Rich and Edwina Rich, nee Richardson. She had a full and vibrant life as a teacher, actor, matriarch (often single mother), and friend to many. She was the last of her generation in both the Flannery and Trapnell clans.

Liz, who was talented in both the performing and illustrative arts, graduated from Baltimore's Western High School. She received a scholarship to the Maryland Institute of Art, where one of her teachers was Hans Schuler. She didn't graduate, instead marrying a handsome Army officer in World War II – Collins Arthur Flannery. During the war she moved with Captain Flannery as he was posted to Norfolk, Virginia and New York City. Their first child, Colise, was named by combining Liz and Collins. Their second, Michael Collins, was born in New York City, and their third child, Agnes Collins Flannery, in 1950. They lived in Baltimore on Calvert Street in Charles Village. Collins was killed in an auto accident in 1950.

To support her family, Liz worked at the Belvedere Hotel, at Johns Hopkins Hospital, as a substitute teacher, and as a teacher/counselor in an acting arts program for challenged teenagers. She was also active in Baltimore area theater. Using Liz Rich as her stage name, she both directed and performed in the melodrama, "The Drunkard" at the Four Corners Restaurant. She was an original member of the Spotlighters troupe, hosting the cast party for their

premier play, "Bus Stop" at her home on Wyndhurst Avenue.

Elizabeth married Franklin Waters Trapnell Jr., a career Army Officer (Colonel, Ret.). Liz and Frank's beloved daughter, Emily Marilla Trapnell, was born in Baltimore, which was home-base for this military family. In that phase of her life, Liz entertained and mentored officer's spouses. She supported her husband in his accelerating responsibilities both as an expert in counter-insurgency and as subject matter expert for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle. One of his final posts was at the Johns Hopkins University, where he was in charge of the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

With her love of history, Liz was a volunteer/docent for the Baltimore Museum of Art and Savannah's Scarbrough House. She was an enthusiastic member of Volksmarching clubs and was especially proud of belonging to the Baltimore Star Spangled Steppers. In Texas, her walking efforts from 1982-1984 brought this comment from the 1/41 wives, "Liz, You Walked Across Texas and Into Our Hearts."

She and Frank retired to Manassas, Virginia, where they hosted family and friends and made new friends there. Liz was active in the Woodbine Wood Garden Club and they attended the Trinity Episcopal Church. For her 90th birthday, Frank hosted a spectacular celebration at the Johns Hopkins Club, with nearly 100 in attendance. Frank passed away in 2014, and is still mourned by family and friends. At that time he and Liz had been married for 55 years.

Liz is survived by brother Charles Lee Rich, her children Colise Gerard (Flannery) Medved, Michael Collins Flannery, Agnes Collins Flannery, and Emily Marilla Trapnell Coryell; eight grandchildren and by seven great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, and their children. From the grandchildren she answered to the name Mum Mum and Oma, and was pleased to add the name G-G Ma for the great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Fisher House Foundation, Inc., 111 Rockville Pike, Suite 420, Rockville, MD

20850 in loving memory of Elizabeth Rich Flannery Trapnell.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 11. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home  
9609 Center St.  
Manassas, VA 20110  
(703) 257-6028  
pfh@piercefh.com  
<https://www.piercefh.com>

## Service

JUL 12. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Trinity Episcopal Church  
9325 West Street  
Manassas, VA

## Memorial Gathering

JUL 12. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Trapnell Residence  
Manassas, VA

## Graveside Services

JUL 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens  
200 East Padonia Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

## Reception

JUL 13. 12:30 PM (ET)

Pappa's  
550 Cranbrook Road  
Cockeysville, MD 21030

# Tribute Wall

AY

“ I stopped for a nice long chat with Liz several weeks ago while I was walking the dog and she was bringing household items out to the street for a veteran's group to pick up. She already had quite a pile built and was going back for more. Of course, she didn't want help. :- ) But she did stop long enough for us to catch up for a bit and, as always, left me impressed with her spirit, intelligence, kindness and endless energy. Liz's was most definitely a life well lived. Our condolences to her family. She will be missed by many.

Allison Young - July 14, 2015 at 12:19 PM

CR

“ I will always remember chatting with Liz when she passed our house on her long walks through Woodbine Woods. She would usually be wearing a hat studded with volksmarch pins.

Liz was always so up beat, charming, and had a great sense of humor. It was always a delight to talk with her. Rest in peace Liz, may your family and friends find comfort and peace in all of the wonderful memories of you.

Chris Rodzevik

Chris Rodzevik - July 10, 2015 at 08:05 PM



“ Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Elizabeth Rich Trapnell.



July 10, 2015 at 03:44 PM

SH

“ Sharon Harvey lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Rich Trapnell



Sharon Harvey - July 10, 2015 at 03:01 PM

AF

“ I will always remember all your great stories, bubbly personality and positive attitude. You always had a smile on your face which put a smile on mine! You will be missed my friend :)

Annette Foster - July 10, 2015 at 11:22 AM

AF

“ Annette Foster lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Rich Trapnell



Annette Foster - July 10, 2015 at 11:19 AM