



Monica Edwards

April 1, 1916 - October 21, 2017

World Famous People born in 1916 include Kirk Douglas, Gregory Peck, Jackie Gleason and our 'wee' Irish Mother, Monica Fleming, the 11th of 12 children born to Charles Fleming and Kathleen Murray in Belfast, Northern Ireland on April 1st of that year. None of the aforementioned famous people, or members, lived to the ripe age of 101. Our Mother was a force of nature and an amazing woman.

In her 23rd year, World War II was raging in Europe and Belfast became a staging area for American Armed Forces in the days and months leading to D-Day. She worked as a secretary for the U.S. Army Command and, ever the dancing queen, could be found most evenings at the USO dancing to the music of the Big Band Era. During this time, she met and married Claude J. Edwards, a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and a private in the U.S. Army. His career and their marriage would take her from her Irish home to the United States, where she remained for the next 60 years.

While the family made many moves in the early years, with the birth of their first grandchild, they settled in Manassas, Virginia. During her time there she made many friends, became friends with her children's friends and even her grandchildren's friends, all of whom affectionately referred to her as "Grammy". To many she was the Grandmother they had never known and she treated all of them as though they were her own.

Always busy, she could be found wrapping hot dogs at the Greater Manassas Baseball League fields in the summer, selling popcorn at the Stonewall

Jackson High School sporting events, year round and playing Bridge with “her girls” every Thursday evening. Once the grandchildren graduated from college she started the weekly Wednesday night dinners to feed the working poor (her grandchildren and their friends) where great food, good conversation and awesome banana pudding were on the menu.

Grammy was a hugger, generous to a fault, volunteered herself (and each of us) for everything, dispensed advice freely, whether solicited or not and prayed for anyone at any time, upon request and even without a request if she felt it was needed. She was a true believer and, oh yes, did we mention, in our family we believe she even had “Himself” on speed dial? She had a wicked sense of humor, a deep Irish brogue and a heart as big as Texas.

While she loved us deeply, her great grandchildren, Grace, Ben, Colby and Cooper occupied a special place in her life. She played games with them, read stories, recited poems and sang Irish songs – her own special version of a college education.

She wore her Irish green sweater on St. Paddy’s Day, grew shamrocks on her apartment windowsill and served up cups of hot tea which, in case you are unaware, can cure anything from a broken heart to appendicitis. Our 4 ft. 11 inch “Irish Leprechaun” as we often referred to her was profoundly loved by all of us.

She is survived by her daughter Fran Mong; son Charles and Cindy Edwards; grandson Darren and wife Karen Mong; granddaughter Shannon and husband Bob Lane; granddaughter Sarah Cox; and great grandchildren Grace and Colby Lane; Benjamin and Cooper Mong.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital

Tribute Wall

A.

“ I extend my deepest heartfelt condolences to the family in the loss of your dear loved one. May you all be comforted by many beautiful memories, and especially, May you receive needed strength, comfort and peace from God (2Corinthians 1:3,4).

A. - October 28, 2017 at 06:11 PM



“ The sweetest lady I have ever met! I just found out today of her passing, so sorry I wasn't there to say goodbye. All my love and prayers to the entire family and cherish all your wonderful memories you had together. A true angel of God.


Bonnie Baggan - October 26, 2017 at 03:25 PM

DS

“ The best next-door neighbor I ever had. A hot cuppa over a card game and lots of chatter. Loved hearing all of Grammy's stories in that Irish brogue. She and her co-conspirator Elanor introduced me to my husband Kevin back in 1984. For those who never knew her you sure missed out. We are blessed for having known her.




Donna Stull - October 25, 2017 at 07:34 AM

 Monica
Haley

“ I am honored my mother named me after her lovely sister. I even took her other names when I made my confirmation so I am proud to call myself "Monica Justine Therese". Aunty Mona and Uncle C.J. took me on a holiday to England when I was about 3 years old where they met with one of the Senior Officers of the US Army. He told Aunty Mona that he and his wife could not have children and were looking to adopt. So he asked her, "How many children does your sister have?", followed by, "Do you think she would let us adopt this gorgeous little one", telling her that I would never want for anything and have my own horse and be well looked after. She quickly told him, "my sister would not part with any of her children for all the money in the world!!!". Years later we moved to Australia and it was lovely when Aunty Mona would ring my mum from America and we would talk to her I can still hear her saying in her american accent, "Hello Honey, how are you?". More recently it was lovely when my daughter arranged a surprise face time chat with her granddaughter Shannon and my mum and her big sister Mona got to chat face to face after 30 years. It was a very precious moment. One I will always remember. Say hello to mum for me. Sending condolences to my cousins Fran & Charles David and their families. R.I.P. Aunty Mona xoxox

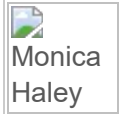
Monica Haley - October 25, 2017 at 02:01 AM

 Monica
Haley

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Monica Haley - October 25, 2017 at 01:13 AM



Monica
Haley

Aunty Mona in the middle front blonde hair

Monica Haley - October 25, 2017 at 02:17 AM



SR

I played bridge with Mona for almost years. She was my dearest friend in the world. I drove her to bridge & home, and we always talked about our love for God all the way home. She was a precious human being, much loved by everyone she ever met. I will miss her so very much. I said the Lords prayer to her very loudly in her ear, two weeks ago when I visited her, and when I sat down, she winked at me. I will miss her very much. Love, Sharon Raymond

Sharon Raymond - October 26, 2017 at 03:05 PM