



## Jean Alice (Carlton) Denton

December 25, 1925 - December 25, 2013

Jean Alice (Carlton) Denton, 88, cherished wife of Cleveland R. Denton, died peacefully in her sleep on December 25, 2013, at home in West Hartford. Jean was born November 30, 1925, in Rutland, Vermont, the daughter of Clarence and Margaret (Pennell) Carlton, and attended school in Hartford, Vermont, Melrose, Massachusetts and Burlington, Vermont, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Vermont with a degree in mathematics. She and Cleve were married on June 18, 1947 in Burlington, VT and lived in Michigan and Ohio before returning to New England to settle in West Hartford in 1954. Jean was a member and active alumna of Delta Delta Delta sorority, and was a faithful member of First Baptist Church of West Hartford, and was very involved with Hartford Seminary and American Baptist organizations at the local, national, and international level for many years. Jean always put others' needs before her own, and this quality was evident to all those who knew her, as well as to those directly touched by her extensive volunteer service with local programs such as Meals on Wheels and Loaves and Fishes. She was a thoughtful and caring wife, mother and grandmother. The hand-knit sweaters and baby blankets lovingly created for her grandchildren are destined to become treasured family heirlooms passed down to future generations. Jean and Cleve truly enjoyed spending time with each other and as a family. Throughout their 66-year marriage, they especially enjoyed traveling. A highlight of their many adventures was a European tour with their children, complete with an Atlantic Ocean crossing aboard the S.S. France in 1967. Jean brought her talents for photography and her interest in beautiful scenery, birds and flowers together for many wonderful slide-show presentations to family and friends. Jean is survived by her beloved husband, Cleve, and their children, Stephanie J. Cuzzocreo and her husband Roy of Orange, Carol D. Arrowsmith and her husband Ted of Broad Brook, and Robert W. Denton and his wife Kimberly of Framingham, MA, grandchildren, Matthew, David, Daniel and Brian Cuzzocreo, and Tyler and Nathan Arrowsmith, great-grandson, Matthew Drolett, and many extended family members and dear friends. She was predeceased by her siblings, Charles M. Carlton and Harriet E. (Carlton) Bridges. Jean's family sincerely thanks her wonderful Amy's Angels caregiving team, the nursing staff at The McAuley, the entire McLean Hospice and Home Care team, and her physicians for their dedicated and compassionate care.

A memorial service in celebration of Jean's life will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church of West Hartford, 90 North Main Street. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The University of Vermont Foundation, 411 Main St., Burlington, VT, 05401, or to the Memorial Gifts Fund, First Baptist Church of West Hartford, 90 North Main St., West Hartford, CT 06107. For directions and online condolences, please visit [www.taylorandmodeen.com](http://www.taylorandmodeen.com).

# Comments

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“ In my youth I remember Jean at First Baptist Church. She was always dressed so nicely which to me showed what a special place she thought church to be. She was usually busy either ushering, helping in the kitchen or with Sunday School - yet she always took time to ask how I was and what I had been doing and was genuinely interested in the answer. She was like this with everyone - involved, helpful, caring, interested and interesting. Her stories of her travels were captivating. I remember her smooth voice and her warm smile. She will be missed by her family and her many many friends.

**Heather Trowbridge - Surrey, ENGLAND - Member of First Baptist Church** - January 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Cleve & Stephanie,

Jean was a loving friend and I will always cherish memories of the times we spent together.

Love,

Madalyn

**Madalyn Wejman - Acton, MA - Friend** - January 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Cleve, Carol, Stephanie Rob and family, I was so saddened when my dad just told me of your mom's passing. Stephanie had written to inform him - to which he was very grateful. You mom was such a warm, wonderful and giving person. I always loved seeing her on my trips home to see my parents. I think on most occasions she was helping to serve in the fellowship time. Always serving First Baptist is how I think of her, with a smile and generous heart. With our very deepest sympathy, Janet (Tousley) and Rick Bross

**Janet Bross - Hollis, NH - friend** - January 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Cleve, my dad and I are very sorry to read of Jean's passing. We both have years of fond memories of both of you and First Baptist. Praying God is comforting you now and always.

Sandra and John Byrd and Ellis - Farmington, CT - January 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ To the Denton Family, We are very grateful for the talents and friendship given to us by Jean as friend, care giver of First Baptist, and supporter of mission projects through the church and active caring projects in the community. She shared her life with us and others. She was always cheerful, compassionate, and supportive of good ideas and projects. Her smile and countenance inspires us. Thank you Jean for all you have done for us. Thank you Denton family for your presence in our midst. You enrich our lives and community.

Neal & Warene Testerman & family - West Hartford, CT - friend, first baptist church - January 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Cleve, Steph, Carol, and Robert,  
It is so sad to lose anyone at this time for year, but especially a Mother and Wife. My Mother died Dec. 12, 1967. One never forgets, but time heals. I wish there was something I could say or do but at this time and distance it is not possible. Just remember I will never forget Jean and all the Happy and Special times we enjoyed together. Hard to realize how quickly time passes One of Jeans most special gestures as well as Cleve's was when you took our children while we went on our Honeymoon. I will never forget that.

May God comfort and be with you during this difficult.

Love, Nancy Humphreys

Nancy Humphreys - Columbia, SC - Special Friend - January 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Stephanie,  
Thinking of you at this time and hope you and your family are at peace with your Mom's passing. It's never easy to say goodbye but know she is in a better place. Thank you for your kind message for my Dad's passing.

Lucy Lindeman Carty - Barnstable, MA - Childhood friend - December 31, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ It is hard for me to grasp that Aunt Jean has passed away -- as she is still so full of life in my mind and heart.

There are so many happy memories -- the cousin exchanges at Sturbridge. the picnics (in fact, I don't remember a picnic without her!), the Thanksgivings together, delivering my first meals on wheels, joining the family on a trip to Colorado, visits to Anna Marie, all the little things (her famous candied pecans, the birthday cards, etc.).

It was all happy -- and she always was smiling.

Celebrating her life will be easy...getting over this sense of loss...that will be much more difficult.

Love to all,

Jeff, Eileen & Megan

**Jeff Brdges - Palm Harbor, FL - Nephew** - December 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Stephanie,  
My heartfelt sympathy to you and your family.  
Love,  
Loretta

**Loretta Casey - New Haven, CT - Cousin to Stephanie nd Roy** - December 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Jean was such a delightful and committed member of Delta Delta Delta Alumna group. What a pleasure it was to know her. Thoughts and prayers are with your whole family.

**Sharon McHUgh** - December 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM