



Eleanor Key Gear

December 8, 1918 - June 29, 2018

Our sweet mother, Eleanor Key Gear, passed away under the watchful glow of a full moon at Samaritan Evergreen Hospice on the evening of June 29, 2018. Eleanor began her life's journey in Columbus, Georgia on December 8, 1918.

She was the daughter of Bascom Biggers and Ella May Key. She adored her older brother Crawford "Buck" Key although she had some interesting tales to tell about their adventures. Eleanor wed Lieutenant George Gear, Jr. on November 7, 1942 in Columbus. Eleanor's path took her to California with her husband and three children for 27 years but she continued to be the ultimate southern lady, thick accent and all. Upon the passing of her husband, Eleanor returned to Columbus in 1983 where she remained until 2011. At that time, she felt the need to be closer to her daughter and moved to Oregon where she resided until her passing.

Eleanor is preceded in death by her beloved husband, George and their son, George III. She is survived by her son, John, of Santa Barbara, CA and daughter, Meg and daughter-in-law Elisabeth DeGroot, of Corvallis, OR, grandson Jeff and his wife Annie of Seattle, WA and granddaughter, Emily and great grandchildren Carolina and Cayden of Colorado Springs, CO.

A memorial service will be held in Columbus on Saturday, September 29 at

Parkhill Cemetery. Donations in Eleanor's memory may be made to Columbus, Georgia First Presbyterian Church or Samaritan Evergreen Hospice in Albany, OR. Please leave condolences and memories at demosdurdan.com.

Tribute Wall

Jl

“ Meg, I am so sorry to hear of the death of your Mom. In the short time that I knew her she was a very happy and gracious lady and I much enjoyed talking to her. You and John made sure that her later years were full of love and joy.

JEAN irvin

Jean Irvin - July 07, 2018 at 03:55 PM

MG

Thanks, Jean. She was a very special person. I hope you are doing well in your new home. We miss you!

Meg Grear - July 08, 2018 at 12:51 AM

AC

“ Dear Meg, John and Dee, What an amazing lady your mother was. I will always remember her wonderful sense of humor and her mighty spirit and determination.

She could always race past me and win on our way to the dining room. And what a Whiz at the bridge table - I'm sure she has already found a challenging foursome. She will be greatly missed - but I know she will be happy to be reunited with your dad and brother. May God grant you His peace.

anne cotton

anne c - July 07, 2018 at 02:00 PM

MG

Thank you, Anne. We hope all is well with you. Miss seeing you. We tried moving Mom over to Park Place before this last incident. She would have loved reuniting with Anita and you.

Meg Grear - July 07, 2018 at 03:07 PM

SR

“ Oh Meg....I am so sorry for your loss! I enjoyed your Mom's company for the short time I knew her- what a delightful Southern accent - and a real "Southern Belle"! I know you got your "Spite & Malice" ruthlessness from her! She was loved by and will be missed by all who knew her! Many thoughts and prayers are headed your way!

Sue R

Susan Raines - July 06, 2018 at 12:41 AM

MG

Thank you, Sue. I'm sure she's already had numerous Spite & Malice games in Heaven (although it's probably called something different up there).

Meg Grear - July 06, 2018 at 07:01 PM

CC

“ Meg, John, and family,
I was so saddened to see Eleanor's obit in the newspaper today. She and Earlene were both fixtures in my life during our years at The Cedars - one of our neighbors called us the Three Musketeers! We shared many dinners and card games, and what a serious and ruthless card shark she was! Eleanor was a truly unforgettable character, and my very favorite of her many stories is about the night she and your Dad were in a nightclub in CA, and Frank Sinatra showed up unexpectedly and did an impromptu set. She was so much fun and totally fearless, willing to try most anything. What a wonderful, full, and interesting life she had, and she will be missed.

Love to all,
Carolyn Baldwin Miller Crase (and Michael)

Carolyn Crase - July 04, 2018 at 11:34 AM

MG

Thank you, Carolyn. She did have so many tales to tell. Take care...Meg

Meg Grear - July 04, 2018 at 06:58 PM

MA

“ I was sorry to hear that Eleanor died. She las a lovely lady and I'm glad to have known her.

Mary Alice - July 03, 2018 at 01:56 PM

MG

Thank you, Mary Alice. I'm sure she's already playing bridge in heaven.

Meg Grear - July 04, 2018 at 06:59 PM

MG

“ 3 files added to the album Mom



Meg Grear - July 03, 2018 at 01:04 PM