



## Janet Henson

May 7, 1935 - December 14, 2021

Janet Foucault Henson of Memphis, TN passed away December 14, 2021 in her home, surrounded by her children. She was born May 7, 1935, the second child of Edmund and Arlene Foucault, and raised in Wallingford, CT. She and her sister, Ann, attended convent school in Nicolet, Quebec, and she was a proud graduate of Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford. She attended Marymount College in Tarrytown, NY for her undergraduate and graduate work to become a teacher, her dream profession, just like her mother.

While in Colorado Springs finishing up her graduate studies and student teaching, she met a young man so desperate to have a date with her, he took both Janet and her roommate to dinner. She married Larry E. Henson the following year on May 23, 1959 in Memphis, TN.

Janet briefly taught at Willow Oaks Elementary in Memphis. However, her greatest dream profession was to be a mother. Janet and Larry adopted four children from St. Peter's Orphanage: Jeffrey Lawrence Henson, David Wendell Henson, Kimberly Henson Cooley, and Karen Leigh Henson. Her children and family were always paramount until the day she died.

Throughout her life, summers were spent on Leete's Island in Guilford, CT in the White Cottage that her grandparents built. It was the highlight of everyone's year for Janet to spend time at the shore with her entire extended family and many old friends. Janet was renowned for her ability to find rare colored sand glass and pieces of coral. Her clam hunting talents were envied by all.

Janet enjoyed surrounding herself with friends, especially everyone from "the old neighborhood" in Scenic Hills, where she and Larry built their first house and neighbors became family. After her children were in high school and college, Janet began working with several close girlfriends at Antiques Etc., where she truly cultivated her love of English antiques and travelling through Europe. Janet enjoyed all things food related, gin and tonics, travel, and even Tennessee football (eventually). Janet never met a stranger

and was famous for her wicked sense of humor and love of jokes, despite her utter inability to tell them correctly.

Janet is preceded in death by her parents, Edmund and Arlene, and her beloved husband of 48 years, Larry. She is survived by her four children, her four grandsons, Curran Henson (Emily), Cullen Henson, Fletcher Henson, and Wendell Henson, her three siblings, Ann Settler (Jim), Barbara Jean Garvey, and Peter Foucault, her daughters-in-law Terri Henson and Paige Henson, and son-in-law Dave Cooley, as well as a host of nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and nephews, and neighborhood children from wherever she lived, whom she always welcomed into her home and treated as her own.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Janet's honor to either the Parkinson's Foundation or the Branford Land Trust Jarvis Creek Salt Marsh Project, which is raising money to preserve and protect the wetlands around our beloved Leete's Island.

The visitation will be Sunday, December 19, 2021, 2:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. with a Rosary at 5:00 p.m. at Memorial Park Funeral Home Riverside Chapel.

The funeral Mass will be held Monday, December 20, 1:30 p.m. at St. Louis Catholic Church; 203 S White Station Rd, Memphis, TN. 38117.

# Cemetery

---

## Memorial Park Cemetery

5668 Poplar Ave  
Memphis, TN, 38119

# Events

---

**DEC** **Visitation** 02:30PM - 05:00PM

**19**

---

Memorial Park Funeral Home  
5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis, TN, US, 38119

**DEC** **Funeral Mass** 01:30PM

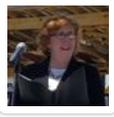
**20**

---

St. Louis Catholic Church  
203 S. White Station Rd., Memphis, TN, US, 38117

# Comments

---



“ Much love, Brendan, Valerie, Megan, Cameron and Kenzie as well as Trish White!  
XOXOX

**Trish White** - December 19, 2021 at 09:17 PM

---



“ The Whites in NY, NJ, MD and CO. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Janet Henson.



**The Whites in NY, NJ, MD and CO.** - December 19, 2021 at 04:48 PM

---



“ To my beloved cousins Jeff, David, Kim, and Karen we are sending our condolences and love to each of you on this very sad day. We love you all so deeply and the passing of Auntie Jan hurts so much. We have so many fond memories growing up as children and spending every Sunday in the summer with you all. I always loved your Tennessee accents. It has been a blessing to see Auntie Jan the past several summers when we were at the cottage. She loved going to consignment shops and finding all sorts of treasures. Pete enjoyed making stuff clams and clam chowder soup to bring to both Aunts. Auntie Jan would be in her glory. She had a beautiful smile that I will never forget, and she always wanted to know how everyone was doing. One summer she insisted on driving with me from the cottage all the way to Waterbury hospital to get my son who had a concussion from football. She is so caring and treated everyone like they were her own children/grandchildren. I was very thankful I got to watch a sunset this summer at Aunt Bobby's with your mom, Aunt Bobby and Phil. She loved her little cocktails. It is my last memory of her that I will cherish forever. Auntie Jan will definitely be missed by many who loved her. Sending you all big hugs and wishing you peace. Denise, Pete and family



**Denise Sarno** - December 19, 2021 at 12:33 PM

---



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Janet Henson.



December 18, 2021 at 08:27 PM

---



“ I hated clamming. I hated everything about it - the sharp rocks and shells, gross muck, creepy spider crabs, water snakes - you name it, it was there, and I detested it all! Except for the fact that clamming gave me one more opportunity to spend time with Auntie Jan! I would do just about anything to be with her, and that included the dreaded clamming. Somehow or other, she managed to make me think that I liked to clam. That is how magical she was - even something I couldn't stand doing became amazing because I was with her! Auntie Jan, you will be missed forever. Love,  
Megaera



Megaera - December 18, 2021 at 10:39 AM

---



“ Summer at Leete's Island, CT never really began until Auntie Jan arrived. We couldn't wait to share new stories with her and relive old ones. We relished every morning coffee and every evening gin & tonic. We loved her jokes and her laughter that could fill any room. The island was just more alive when she was there. And when she left, we couldn't wait for her to come back. It's almost unbearable to think she won't be back at Leete's Island next summer or the summers to come. But in a larger sense, she will now forever be at the cottage because of the countless moments we shared with her there. We love you, Auntie Jan.  
-- The Garvey Family



Stephen Garvey - December 17, 2021 at 11:35 PM

---



“ Jeff, David, Kim and Karen, I am so sorry to read of the loss of your mother. She was a very special woman and will be missed dearly. She was the woman who taught me to clam over 50 years ago and I plan to carry her legacy forward with my granddaughter.

Dixie - December 17, 2021 at 05:51 PM

---



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Janet Henson.



December 17, 2021 at 01:36 PM

---



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Janet Henson.



December 17, 2021 at 12:52 PM

---



“ From Judy Henson Gross:  
Jan was the best sister-in-law you could ever ask for. One of our fondest memories was when we met in San Francisco, toured wineries in the wine region and enjoyed great food together.

**Kimberly Cooley** - December 17, 2021 at 02:13 AM



“ Jan was never without a smile or a laugh and loved to tell a joke.

Such a pleasant personality is a rare treasure

**Alfreda Bruen** - December 17, 2021 at 07:46 PM



“ When Jan walked into a room, joy followed her! She had the most wonderful knack for seeing humor and silver linings! Absolutely one of the most grateful and insightful people I've ever encountered!

**Doris French Jones** - December 18, 2021 at 02:51 PM