



## Mrs. Elizabeth Garth Franke

October 1, 1926 - June 29, 2025

Elizabeth Garth Franke  
1926-2025

Elizabeth (“Liz”) Garth Franke, 98, formerly of Ruxton, Maryland, died on June 29 at Blakehurst in Towson after a long illness. Born in Charlottesville, Virginia to the late Florence Brown Smith and James Wood Garth, she moved to Baltimore at age 12 and attended Roland Park Public School and Notre Dame Academy. She met Edward Philip (“Buddy”) Franke, Jr. at a tea dance at the Baltimore Country Club in 1946, and they were married the following year. They raised four children at their home in Roland Park; Blair Garth Franke, Edward Philip Franke, III, Elizabeth Franke Deford and Anne Franke Porterfield.

During her marriage to Buddy, Liz was a loving and devoted wife and mother and was active volunteering in the community. She worked as a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, Florence Crittendon Home, and served on the Women’s Board of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where for several years she organized the annual Christmas retail show and sale at the Evergreen House on Charles Street.

When her beloved Buddy died in 1981, Liz decided to open a retail shop of her own in Ruxton the following year. She named it Linens and Lingerie and

sold imported linens and custom-made sheets, towels, and children's clothes successfully there for over 25 years. She enjoyed a reputation for great style and humor in her role as the proprietor of Baltimore's finest linen shop.

She is survived by her four children, eight grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren.

An Episcopal service in her memory will be held at the Roland Park Community Center, 5802 Roland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210, at 11:00am on Wednesday, July 30. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Blakehurst Scholarship Fund, 1055 W. Joppa Rd., Towson, MD 21204.

# Previous Events

## Episcopal Service

JUL **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Roland Park Community Center  
5802 Roland Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21210

# Tribute Wall

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“ One of my favorites of "The Parents" growing up in Roland Park. Seeing her in the shop there was always a welcome smile followed by many laughs shared together. My sincere sympathy to Blair, Phil, Liz and Anne.

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**Tom Slaughter** - July 29, 2025 at 03:51 PM