



Mrs. Winifred Lynch Coughlin

August 31, 1924 - October 29, 2013

Winifred Lynch Coughlin, a Baltimore native, died of complications of Alzheimers on October 29 in Chatham, New Jersey. Formerly a resident of Ednor Gardens and Homeland, Coughlin was 89.

Coughlin was a graduate of the Institute of Notre Dame, where she served as president of her senior class, and attended the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. Referred to in her IND yearbook as “winsome, witty Winnie,” Coughlin had a lifelong love of learning. Honored to have received a partial scholarship from the College, she was crushed to learn that her family could not afford the remaining tuition. When a colleague of her mother’s paid the remaining part of the tuition, this gave Coughlin a lesson she never forgot. When she later returned to the donor with an offer to repay him, he asked instead that she pay it forward to help others. In subsequent years, Winnie and her husband established several scholarships to do just that. She was thrilled over the years to receive letters from students who were the recipients of these scholarships.

Coughlin interrupted her college education when she married Patrick J. Coughlin Jr. in October 1944. The couple immediately left Baltimore for California so Mr. Coughlin could serve in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II. With her husband still deployed, Coughlin returned to Baltimore in 1945 to have the first of her six children. She was proud to boast that she could claim the distinction of being both among the youngest and oldest

mothers, as she had six children over a 20-year period.

Coughlin retained deep ties to the College of Notre Dame—she returned for classes after a 40-year hiatus rearing her children and she served as a Trustee Associate. On the occasion of her 85th birthday, Coughlin was awarded The President’s Medal in recognition to her lifetime of service and commitment to the mission of College of Notre Dame. At the time, Notre Dame’s President, Mary Pat Seurkamp, described Winnie as representing “the very best of what a Notre Dame education provides—learning, leadership and service to others.”

Coughlin enjoyed the travel she and her husband undertook over the years. She truly loved spending many summers at her home in Ocean City, Maryland and in later years enjoying beach vacations with her children and grandchildren. To her, the beach embodied beauty and a great peacefulness. She was a former member of the Baltimore Country Club and Country Club of Maryland.

She is survived by three children - Sean Coughlin, of Berlin, MD, Eileen Bress of New Bern, NC and Meaghan Williams of San Antonio, TX and six grandchildren [Colleen Herron of Chicago, Brendan Herron of San Francisco, Caitlin Herron of New York, NY, Katie Thompson of Chapel Hill, NC, Ryan and Claire Williams of San Antonio, TX]. She was predeceased by her husband of 55 years, Patrick J. Coughlin Jr. and by three children, Patrick J. Coughlin III, Barbara C. Herron and Colleen Coughlin.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either of the following:

Colleen Marie Coughlin Scholarship at Notre Dame of Maryland University
4701 N. Charles Street

Baltimore, MD 21210

<http://www.ndm.edu/giving/>

Winifred and Patrick J. Coughlin, Jr. Scholarship at Loyola University
Maryland

4501 N. Charles Street

Baltimore, MD 21210

<http://www.loyola.edu/support.aspx>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Mass of Christian Burial

NOV 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church
4103 Old York Road
Baltimore, MD 21218

Tribute Wall

CH

“ *Eileen Heart aches for you and your family. Hurry home so we can love you more.*

Clara Harrison

clara Harrison. - November 02, 2013 at 04:03 PM

MC

“ *God Bless Eileen and all the family during this time of remembering Winnie's life lived serving others. Eileen's Sunday friends from her Capt. Ratty's Fellowship Group will be praying for you all.*

Meta Carol - November 02, 2013 at 10:19 AM

SH

“ *We have so many beautiful and fun memories of Winnie. This beautiful woman will be missed very much. We loved her and love all of you. Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this great time of loss.*

Love,

Sharon Murphy Herwig

Sharon M. Herwig - November 01, 2013 at 12:27 PM



“ *Heavenly and Harmony was purchased for the family of Mrs. Winifred Lynch Coughlin.*



October 31, 2013 at 03:25 PM

CH

“ 1 file added to the album Winnie



Colleen Herron - October 31, 2013 at 01:44 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Winifred Lynch Coughlin.



October 31, 2013 at 12:15 PM

MB

“ Dear Meaghan, Tim, Ryan & Claire,
We are thinking of all of you and praying for Winnie. We are so sorry for your loss. We miss you all very much.
Love, Martha, Jim, Maddy & Clare

Martha Bowles - October 30, 2013 at 09:48 PM

NA

“ Hi Sean, Eileen , Meaghan n all the family, may u have my deepest sympathy.

Nana - October 30, 2013 at 09:15 PM