



Mrs. Lucile Dennison Keenan

April 14, 1918 - June 5, 2015

Lucile Dennison Keenan died on June 5, 2015, at the Willson Hospice House. She was born in Columbia, South Carolina, on April 14, 1918. Her parents were Hubert Eugene and Lucile McDade Dennison. She grew up in West Palm Beach, Florida and Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1937 she graduated magna cum laude from Agnes Scott College, where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received an M.A. in history from Emory University in 1939 and worked for the National Youth Administration (NYA) until 1942. She received the Juris Doctor degree from Emory University School of Law in 1947. Following her law studies she practiced as a staff attorney for the Atlanta Legal Aid Society.

On June 20, 1942 she married U.S. Army Air Corps Captain Jere A. Wells, Jr. He was killed in an airplane crash in May of 1943.

On July 7, 1948, she married Paul Keenan, and she and her daughter Jere moved to Albany. Paul Keenan died on April 4, 2011.

Lucile Keenan was a lively reader and a brilliant lover of learning. Her home is filled with books and reference works. She enjoyed her Great Books discussion group for many years. She was a lifetime board member of the Salvation Army and was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the

Daughters of the King, and NAMI Albany.

In addition to her husbands, Lucile Keenan was predeceased by her cherished sister, Nancie Dianne (DD) Dennison.

She is survived by her daughter Jere Wells Keenan Brands and her husband Harold of Albany, sons William Paul Keenan of Decatur, Alexander Stuart Keenan of Albany, and Dr. David Louis Keenan and his wife Kelly of Atlanta; grandchildren Ed Brands (Kerri Barnstuble), David Brands (Tracy) and Peter Brands (Kelly); John and Jean Keenan; Bill, Kyle, Caroline and Colleen Keenan; great-grandchildren Lucile Roze and Cyrus Paul Bransel.

She is also survived by her sister, Jean Dennison Brooks, and her brother, Dr. David Dennison and wife Katharine, both of Atlanta; sisters-in-law Elena Wells Harrison of Atlanta and Dr. Carolyn Wells of Farmville, VA; brothers-in-law Dr. Robert Wells (Ruth West Wells) of Atlanta and Walter Keenan and his wife Mary of Albany, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family is grateful to the caregivers who enriched her life in her final years: Ora Lee Gadson, Doretha Dandy, Nethema Brown, Odessa Green, Molly Adams, Tina Hall, Barbara McDuffie, Wanda Murray, Phillis Williams, and Carolyn Allen.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, NAMI Albany, P.O.Box 72446, Albany, GA. 31708; The Episcopal Church of St. John and St. Mark, 2425 Cherry Laurel Lane, Albany, GA 31705; The Salvation Army, 308 W. 2nd Avenue, Albany, GA 31701.

Arrangements for a memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Lucile Dennison Keenan*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Lucile Dennison Keenan*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Lucile Dennison Keenan*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM

CS

“ Ms Lucille Keenan was one of my Mother's, Annette Seely Smith, greatest friends.

Mother always said they became friends when they were in a group of women & Lucille was knitting. At one point she became disgusted, cursed & threw the knitting into the fire. Mother always enjoyed Lucille's spontaneity, her marvelous sense of humor, remarkable intelligence & genuine Love of people.

As Mother took me their coffee circles & other groupings & Lucille & I grew a friendship as I grew. She respected all people regardless of age, creed or color. I loved the person she was . I Loved her family, Paul was always somewhat stoic but interesting and interesting. He reeked of intelligence, a strong & respectable man. Bill & I grew up around one another. He is much like Paul, a good friend & gentleman. He sat with me at AHS in our Junior year, 1969, when others wouldn't because of my Father's (RW "Smitty" Smith) Civil Rights activities. They were only a few families I knew who were not racist & they were a haven of safety for me. Jere is much more like Lucille, my sister, (Adalyn S Watts) age, but when around, always free with a laugh and a smile & willing to spend time & talk with me even though I was so much younger. I didn't know Zandy well as he would sometimes be around & sometimes not. He is an interesting fellow whom Lucille Loved dearly.

After we moved to Atlanta I would visit Lucille. We would have lunch & talk, once we took a trip to the zoo. Her Love of birds & animals were one of many interests we shared. I have been thinking of her & wondering if she was still with us, when her obituary popped up on my wife's (Jennie L Jobe) computer as if Lucille wanted to send her Love and say "Good Bye". I think of her fondly & will always hold her Love in my heart. She was & is a Blessing in my Life, Mother's & Adalyn's

She & I send Love to the family & will keep them & Lucille in our Prayers..

Corinne Seely Smith Clinton, Tennessee

Corinne Smith - March 21, 2016 at 10:23 PM



“ *My sister Corinne Smith just told me this page existed and I had to come here to see it. We are both big fans of Lucile Keenan. We admired her for all her accomplishments, and loved her for the wonderful person she was. Although she is gone now, the world is better for having had her here.*

*Adalyn Smith Watts
March 21, 2016*

Adalyn Watts - March 21, 2016 at 09:44 PM

GM

“ *Such a beautiful mind.
I remember how her laugh would fill a room.
Ah, her conversation. It covered all sides of an argument. Never polemic--every discussion was balanced. She treated you as an adult, even when you were only a young boy.
When I would come home from college, it was always something to look forward to...driving out to the Keenan's home on the Old Dawson Road perchance to have a few minutes to sit and chat with Lucille and Paul. Paul's questions were always pragmatic: What are you studying? What do you plan to do for a career?
Lucille talked about ideas, people, family, world events. What do you think about this or that? She made you feel like you really belonged in this room full of books and ideas. When my visit was over, as my car pulled down that white gravel road, every time I heard the crunch of tires on that dusty macadam, I counted myself privileged to have grown up with this family, in Albany.
Lucille and I havent spoken for years, but I hear her voice whenever I speak to her sons. Her influence lives on in this world, and we are all better for that. I will miss this great woman. From the McKemie family, we all send our best wishes to the Keenans.*

Gordon and Evelyn McKemie - June 10, 2015 at 09:00 AM