



Mary M. "Molly" Chapman

August 21, 1912 - May 5, 2018

Mary M. Chapman "Molly," age 105, passed away on May 5, 2018 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio.

Her oldest son, Erie, III (Chip) said, "She left this world the way she lived in it – with the aplomb of an elegant guest who quietly slips out the door, her pink gown flowing, her face wearing a soft smile. She was the essence of grace for so many – particularly for her loving family."

Mrs. Chapman was born in Elyria, Ohio on August 21, 1912 to Ellen and Ralph Murbach. She moved with her husband and family from Los Angeles to Toledo in 1955 and has remained a resident since that time.

Molly was a 1934 graduate of Northwestern University where she received a bachelor's degree in journalism. She advised her great grandchildren to "help the other person, not yourself." Throughout her life she lived that advice, volunteering at the former Conlan Center and also at The Toledo Hospital for over 45 years.

Molly's life was a celebration of her family and friends. Her gracious demeanor and kind manner caused her to be loved and admired by all. She lived life in moderation. When asked about the secret of her longevity she would sometimes say, simply, "One foot in front of the other." Another reason for her long life may have been the extraordinary support of her family – particularly her youngest daughter, Martha, who was her most constant caregiver in her mother's last years.

Mrs. Chapman loved classical music, cards, bird watching, the English language & rainy days. She also enjoyed word games including scrabble and crossword puzzles. Her passion for the game of bridge endured up to the time of her passing.

Gardenias were her favorite flower even before they were used in her wedding in 1935 and she appreciated fine food including oysters, and her favorite dessert, the Inverness

Junior Fudge Nut Ball.

Mrs. Chapman was an avid golfer and the 18 hole Women's Championship Trophy at Inverness Country Club is named in her honor. She also enjoyed bowling, and walked three miles every morning with her dear friend Patty Poll up until Molly sustained a fall at age 93.

Molly was a longtime, dedicated member of Epworth United Methodist Church. She occupied a special seat in the last pew where she sat with her regular companion, her daughter Martha.

She is survived by her loving children, Ann Debes of Grand Rapids, MI., Erie (Kirsten) Chapman, III of Nashville TN., Martha Chapman of Sylvania, John (Spike Ritter) Chapman of Longmont, Colorado; grandchildren, Susan, Meredith, Tyler and Tia; and ten great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by Erie her husband of sixty years who was former President of the Toledo YMCA (1955-1970), sisters Madge Wells & Ann Schmittgen, and brother John Murbach.

Her family wishes to extend special thanks to Maryanne, Janet & Karen as well as to the staff of Woodlands and Sunset Village (including Tigus and Amanda) & Hospice of NW Ohio for the wonderful care that she received.

Those wishing to make memorial contributions are asked to consider the Epworth United Methodist Church Music Fund, The Furniture Ministry at Epworth or Hospice of Northwest Ohio. A memorial service celebrating Molly's life will be held 11:00am, Friday May 11, 2018 at Epworth United Methodist Church, 4855 Central Avenue, Toledo Ohio 43615, where friends are invited to visit after 10:00am.

Comments



“ Connie joins me in extending condolences to the Chapman family. Molly was always a bright ray of sunshine and a wonderful conversationalist. My home town of Amherst is just 10 miles from Elyria. That's where the Murbach coal company distinguished itself by displaying out front an enormous block of coal. Whenever we passed through Elyria Molly enjoyed getting a report that the coal was still there. Our prayers are with you as you mourn her passing, while celebrating a remarkable life well lived.
Gordon Ward

Gordon Ward - May 14, 2018 at 03:28 PM



“ To Martha and the Chapman family, you are in my thoughts and prayers . Molly was truly a very kind and wonderful person. I am so sorry for your loss. Carol Boeke

Carol Boeke - May 10, 2018 at 07:57 PM



“ Marty and family,
My heartfelt sympathy for the loss.of dear Molly. I still miss her beautiful self at Toledo Hospital,
With my love,
Norma Wells

norma wells - May 10, 2018 at 02:18 PM



“ My deepest sympathies. Molly was a wonderful lady. Sincerely ~ Molly Jasion.

Molly Jasion - May 09, 2018 at 09:30 PM



“ Gladys Jennings and family send our condolences to our. former neighbors and last long time friend for 100 year old Mom. I know you have wonderful memories of your matriarch who was able to bless your family so long.

joan jennings dineen - May 11, 2018 at 11:44 AM



“ I was so fortunate to be one of Molly's caregivers for 5 years. She was truly a great lady . I love her son's description of the pink gown flowing. It made me think of her many pink nightgowns and her lovely coloring and big smile. I learned a great deal from her about the value of routine and discipline. As much as she loved her chocolates she would just have one. As I met her family members and friends I truly

saw how very special she was. I loved the way she knew every bird call and the way she enjoyed being outdoors. She taught me to slow down a bit and enjoy the moment. She was a true joy.

Janet Kane - May 09, 2018 at 09:01 PM



“ Dear Martha and family~ I was so very sad to hear of Molly's passing. That being said ~ I'm also so grateful to have known such a wonderful, kind and humorous soul. She will always be in my thoughts and I will forever cherish the many fond memories spent with your mother. Sincerely ~ Karen Scott

Karen Scott - May 09, 2018 at 11:16 AM



“ Dear Martha, Chip, Kirsten and family, What a privilege to have known Molly, an amazing lady. She was blessed with a wonderful family. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Jane and Bill Willis

Jane Willis - May 08, 2018 at 04:30 PM



“ Dear Marty & family, my heartfelt sympathy goes out to you. I have fond memories of working with your Mom when she volunteered at The Toledo Hospital information desk. She was always so pleasant and a joy to be around. I am glad to have known her.

Ben Biery - May 08, 2018 at 12:33 PM



“ Dear Marty! John and I are so sorry to see the passing of your Mother - she was always such wonderful, lovely luncheon companion with you at the Inverness Patio during Summer and in dining room during winter. It was an honor to meet both of you.



Marja Dooner - May 08, 2018 at 08:00 AM



“ Marty and family, We are sorry to hear of the passing of your dear mother. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Linda Edelman Pezzino and family



linda edelman pezzino - May 08, 2018 at 07:40 AM



“ Linda Edelman Pezzino sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary M. "Molly" Chapman



linda edelman pezzino - May 08, 2018 at 07:38 AM



“ Dear Marty and family, What a wonderful tribute to your Mother in the Blade. I feel privileged to have met her. I remember she always was so happy and had a twinkle in her eyes. Love, hugs, blessings, and prayers, Alan and Judy Johnson

Judy Johnson - May 09, 2018 at 07:55 AM