

ELIZABETH (SNYDER) MANZINGER



Elizabeth (Snyder) Manzinger, age 94, also known as "Betty Jean" and "BJ" passed away on Monday, January 8, 2024. Though petite in stature (she was only 4'10"), she leaves a big legacy for her family and friends to cherish. Born in Ambler, PA, on November 25, 1929, to John K. and Elsie (Witman) Snyder, she was the younger sister to her brother, William. The joy of her birth was tempered by the concerns of her parents of

another mouth to feed during The Depression. Despite the trepidations of her start, BJ went on to live a full, happy, and rewarding life.

One of those beacons in her life was her beloved husband of 67 years, Joseph C. Manzinger, Sr., who passed away in 2018 at the age of 88. They met on a blind date and married (with her father's permission because she was only 20) prior to Joe shipping off to Korea. Joe's nickname for BJ was "Sarge", no doubt because she was in charge of maintaining the household. Together they raised two children, Joanne Ulrich (Steve) of Marysville, PA, and Joseph C. Manzinger, Jr. (Cheri) of Marshall Township.

BJ was known for her kind and caring demeanor which led her to a career in nursing. She was proud to be a Registered Nurse and worked in the premature Nursery at Abington Hospital where she was a source of support and comfort to many premature babies and their parents. BJ was a member of AMH Nurses' Alumni and enjoyed staying connected with her nursing friends long after her retirement in 1951.

She applied her nursing skills to raising her own family and eventually to sleepovers at "Mom-Mom" and "Pap-Pap's" with her three grandchildren, with whom she made a point to foster a unique and special relationship with each. Now grown, they are Joseph C. Manzinger, III (Joey) and his fiancée, Kaley Neeson, of Chicago, Michael W. Manzinger, his wife, Ophelia, and baby daughter, Hannah, currently living in London; and Sarah L. Manzinger and her fiancé, Grant Watson, of Georgetown, TX. She relished any chance to be with family and so enjoyed getting to meet her great-granddaughter, Hannah Elizabeth Manzinger, this past Christmas.

Throughout her life, BJ's personality was a study of opposites. She was small in stature but could confidently speak her mind. She wrote letters to Presidents (of both parties) yet proudly had her Grasshopper Pie recipe published in the local paper. She was always well dressed; with hair and nails done, and shoes, purse, and jewelry to match each outfit. Yet she would willingly get on the floor to play with her children. She had a quick wit and was always coming up with hilarious one-liners, yet she rarely spoke about herself. She bravely endured breast cancer, open-heart surgery, diabetes, Macular Degeneration, COPD, and the tortures of her generation: girdles and hair perms, but she didn't dwell on her challenges. She was cheerful and accepting.

In a colorful sports coat, the love of her life, Joe, has already greeted her in heaven. With the same warmth, humor, and humility that they shared in life, Joe is proudly leading BJ around to see all those who have gone before them. She is now reunited with her parents (John and Elsie Snyder); her brother (William Snyder); Joe's folks (Louis and Lillian Manzinger); his brothers (Robert and Norman Manzinger); sisters-in-law (Sally Manzinger and Mary Lou Snyder); and their many, many friends from over the years.

BJ and Joe will share a final memorial service at Masonic Village in Sewickley at a date to be determined. Then, their ashes will be interred together at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies. Memorial contributions, if desired, can be made to Shriners' Hospital for Children. Special thanks to Masonic Village for their care and kindness over the years.

Arrangements entrusted to **R. D. COPELAND, LTD.**, Irvine Chapel, Sewickley, PA.

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