



## Kathleen M. Smoker

July 2, 1925 - November 23, 2024

Kathleen M. Smoker, 99, passed away peacefully at her home in Lebanon on Nov 23 with her daughter, Barbara, and son, David, by her side.

Born in Wellingborough, England, Kathleen Farrow met her American husband, 1st Lt Frank H Smoker, Jr, at a Red Cross Club where she volunteered during WW II. Frank (Bud) was stationed at the nearby Podington base, serving as a B-17 navigator in the 8th Air Force.

They were married in December 1945 and spent 65 years together until her husband, then Maj Gen Frank Smoker, passed away in 2010.

Kathleen and her family lived at Ft Indiantown Gap from 1953 to 1985 when her husband retired and they relocated to Lebanon. During the time at the Gap, she led the Sunday School at the Post Chapel where the family worshipped for 67 years, coordinated Youth Fellowship, served as a Brownie and Girl Scout leader, volunteered at the VA hospital, and hosted Fresh Air Children for many summers in her home. Over the years she welcomed many friends, relatives, and strangers into her home, which included many cups of tea.

Kathleen is survived by her loving family - Barbara Harvey, David Smoker (Brenda), Dung and Loi Phung, Liem and Ha Truong; grandchildren Amanda Swarr (Tori), Jessica Ellinger (Chet), Manh Phung (Naomi), Thao Wesler (Jared), Tien Phung (Elizabeth); great grandchildren Nathan (Ally), Andrew (Jensen), Gabriel, Evan, Tyler, Landon, Colin, Allie, Jalynn, Ella, Elena, Alexandria, Quinn, and Enli.

In England she is survived by nephews Michael, Richard, and Jamie Farrow and their families, as well as cousins Albert, David, and Kathryn Farrow and their families.

Kathleen's family is extremely grateful to Wellspan Hospice for continuing care and love, especially Sarah, Pat, Journey, and Maria. Also very much appreciated is the support of all other nurses & volunteers.

In lieu of flowers, as was Kathleen's wish, donations may be sent to the Pennsylvania National Guard Military Museum, founded by her husband in 1985. The non-profit museum portrays the accomplishments and sacrifices of Pennsylvania National Guard soldiers and airmen. Donations may be sent to: PNGMMA, Bldg. 8-57, FTIG, Annville, PA 17003.

Kathleen's funeral service will be at the Fort Indiantown Gap Post Chapel at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, December 23rd, 2024. Interment will follow at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery at 12:30 p.m.

Please note that Fort Indiantown Gap is now gated with entry on Route 934 only. Attendees will need to show a valid driver's license or picture identification upon entry at the gate. Be sure to tell the police at the gate that you are going to the Post Chapel to attend the funeral for Mrs. Kathleen Smoker.

# Cemetery Details

## Indiantown Gap National Cemetery

Indiantown Gap Road  
Anville, PA 17003

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

DEC **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fort Indiantown Gap Post Chapel  
Anville, PA 17003

# Tribute Wall



“ *So saddened to hear that another of our wonderful war brides has passed.*



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**WWIIWBA** - February 25, 2025 at 05:19 PM



*Agree. And her lovely children send me a card one year thanking me for doing the War Bride birthday cards for their Mom. Bless you all. Sorry for your loss.*

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**Vivian Brown** - February 14 at 05:18 PM

HM

“ Words like kind, gracious, generous and welcoming may be used to describe Kathleen Smoker, yet those words are woefully inadequate for conveying the profoundly positive influence she had on all who were fortunate in knowing her.

*I spent much time in the Smoker home as a child and a young man, and Kathleen always made me feel like family. She not only encouraged me, but scolded me when I surely deserved it, and became my “second mom.” My respect and gratitude for her is boundless.*

*Kathleen was a beacon of goodness and selfless devotion, giving freely of her time and energy to serve and support the community. Indiantown Gap and later Lebanon were made all the better for her presence. She will live on in our hearts and memories.*

*Good bye, Kathleen. May you rest in peace.*

*Harold D. Miller, Jr*

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**Harold Miller** - December 23, 2024 at 01:30 PM

ME

“ Those were wonderful years we shared at the Gap with you Smokers. Your mom was always so friendly and welcoming - a loss for all. I wish I could be there with you today.

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**Mervin Eyler** - December 23, 2024 at 09:37 AM

RF

“ I remember as child being so excited when we were told Auntie Kathleen was coming to visit us, she always brought so much love and happiness with her to Finedon, England. My sister and I would walk up to the bungalow door and wait for her big smile and warm welcome. She was so kind and generous and I am grateful for many happy memories to cherish. Xx



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**Rachel Farrow** - December 23, 2024 at 07:58 AM

MG

“ Kathleen was a great person. It was an honor to have her as our neighbor. She will be a hard act to follow. We will miss seeing her on her daily walks. She watched our children grow up and they enjoyed seeing and talking with her. Our grandson would go over and talk with her - he liked hearing her British accent and seeing the British flag flying. We will miss you. Love you Maureen and Bob Gallo

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**Maureen and Bob Gallo** - December 21, 2024 at 10:19 AM

CS

“ I only met Mrs. Smoker once, but I have had the privilege of being Barbara's neighbor for 40 years. Barb often spoke of her Mom, and I felt I almost knew her. She had such a remarkable life, and is such an example for us all to emulate. I grow some of her pretty plants in my garden that she sent down with Barbara. We grieve with you, and ask God to send comfort to all who knew and loved her. She left you with beautiful memories. Mr. and Mrs Walter Stachelek

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**Constance Stachelek** - December 14, 2024 at 10:03 AM

DB

“ *What a wonderful woman Mrs. Smoker was. I met her and her husband when I moved to Lebanon and they lived just a couple houses up from me. My kids were very little at the time and she was always so gracious to them. When Maj. General Smoker passed away, she brought me one of his overcoat dress jackets to stay warm when I was working outside. When I moved away, I had a new lining put in the jacket and still wear it to this day, always reminding me of the Major General and Mrs. Smoker. Sincere condolences to the family.*

*David Bradley, Lewes, DE*

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**David Bradley** - December 11, 2024 at 11:24 AM

BH

*This is a beautiful memory, David. It's so touching that you continue to be kept warm by our Dad's jacket. My parents legacy lives on in so many ways. Thank you so much for sharing this story. I hope you and your family are well.*

*Barbara*

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**Barbara Harvey** - December 13, 2024 at 01:26 PM

RH

“ *My heart sank when I learned of the passing of Kathleen Smoker. I was blessed to enjoy the friendship of Kathleen and General Smoker for many years . Their legacy is great ; the lives they touched are many. United once again, may they rest in peace. God bless,*

*Bob Hoffman*

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**ROBERT HOFFMAN** - December 08, 2024 at 12:56 AM

AB

“ We attended the Post Chapel for several years before moving to Delaware. From the first day we attended until the last, Mrs Smoker was a warm welcoming presence at the Chapel and we always enjoyed our conversations with her. She is now resting in the arms of our Beloved Father and enjoying eternity with her husband. Praying for peace and comfort for the entire family.  
Ron and Ann Marie Brewer

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**Ann Marie Brewer** - December 07, 2024 at 06:07 AM