



Jane C. Clayton

February 24, 1949 - February 2, 2023

Jane C. (Over) Clayton, 73, of Florence, passed away on Thursday February 2, 2023, at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. She was born in Farnham Surrey, UK to the late John and Margaret (Hillier) Over.

She had attended school in the UK and had worked for many years at Smith College as the librarian before her retirement. Jane enjoyed gardening and was an avid reader of all books. She had a great fondness of all animals, especially her cat Jezebell.

She is survived by her loving husband, Robert Clayton, her niece Kate Grimmett, and her children, Jack, and Alice, all of Cornwall, UK, her devoted caregiver, Kim Higgins of Haydenville and her gardener friend, Beth Altimari of Easthampton.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her brothers, Michael and Darrick Over, and stepsiblings, Anne, and Giles Fry.

All services are private and at the convenience of the family. DROZDAL FUNERAL HOME of Northampton has been entrusted with her services.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jane's memory to Dakin Pioneer Humane Society, PO Box 6307, Springfield, MA 01101.

For more information, or to leave the family a personal condolence, please visit DrozdaFuneralHome.com

Tribute Wall

BB

“ *Sending condolences to all Jane's family and friends. Over the course of years, I much appreciated her help with my many and often arcane media and reserve requests at Neilson library, all the more so since I was a Five College guest and not Smith faculty. I like to think she relished the challenge!*

Barton Byg - February 11, 2023 at 03:32 PM

RJ

“ *I worked with Jane for several years in the Circulation department at Smith College's Neilson Library. All our student assistants loved working with her, hearing about her life growing up in England, and laughing at that pointed wit that Joe also mentioned in his post. She was very well-loved by our staff and provided a lot of wonderful (and much-needed) banter in our daily work lives. For example, she knew how much of a sweet tooth I had and once brought a pack of Jelly Babies back from England for me to try. After this, she insisted on calling me “The Jelly Boy” for about a month straight while laughing wildly each time she did it, which everyone thought was very funny. As many will recollect, Jane was also a great lover of cats and once even tried to persuade me to allow my cat, whom I brought to the library thinking it would be “fun” for staff and students alike to see, to run free in the back of the library. “Just let her do what she wants,” she said while she scratched my cat's neck.*

I'll miss the many conversations we had about films, books, and cats at Smith, but most of all, I'll miss her mischief. What a deep loss this is and many condolences to her family.

Reese Julian - February 06, 2023 at 03:56 PM

DK

“ I remember when Jane began working in the Circulation Department at Neilson Library. Her British accent was nice to hear! My name sounded like "Donner" and I loved it. She always graced our main desk with primroses, one of her favorites, among others. Also, an avid cat lover, we loved to compare notes. My last conversation with her just prior to her retirement and the shuttering of Neilson to make way for the new building, she seemed more concerned with Bob's health than her own, yet she still had her sense of wry humor. That seemed like only yesterday. Condolences to Bob and family. Enjoy good memories...

Donna Kurkul - February 05, 2023 at 10:13 AM

DK

I forgot to mention her grave rubbings! I'd never met anyone who had this sort of hobby and I enjoyed viewing some that she made.

Donna Kurkul - February 05, 2023 at 10:15 AM

JB

“ Worked with Jane for many years at Smith College's Neilson Library. Loved her stories and her sharp wit. She loved flowers cats and discussing various books and British authors , Where she is now is filled with the things she loved. She spoke often and fondly of her husband Robert.



Joseph Bialek - February 04, 2023 at 11:08 AM