



## Nancy Fellows

March 9, 1927 - August 31, 2025

Fellows, Nancy (nee Ill) Passed away August 31, 2025 at the age of 98 .Nancy was born on March 9, 1927 to Herbert and Catherine Ill in Newark, NJ. She was the oldest of four children. Nancy and her younger siblings Martin, Susan and Peter, were raised in Glen Ridge, NJ. She led a privileged life until WW2 when her father went to the Pacific as a front-line doctor and the family had to cope with much less.

Nancy attended Glen Ridge High School, graduated in 1946, and then went to Colby Jr. College in New London, NH. She graduated with a degree as a medical secretary which enabled her to work in Mountainside Hospital for the head of the Xray Department.

In 1950 Nancy married John C. Fellows, Jr. while Jack was a junior in college. While they lived in Troy, NY she continued working at the Good Samaritan Hospital in the Xray Department supporting him until daughter Susan was born. They moved to Toms River, NJ and she became a full-time homemaker. Nancy and Jack raised four children: Susan, John, Ruth, and Cynthia, all two years apart, while in Toms River where they lived for 20 years. After that, they moved to Island Heights, NJ and built their dream home where they lived for the next 40 years on the bluff overlooking the Toms River. When Jack turned 90, they moved to Harrogate in Lakewood, NJ in 2015.

Nancy had roots that ran back to her grandfather, Charles III, who had a summer home on the water in Island Heights where she developed a love for sailing, but her first love was downhill skiing. She was also a devoted French horn player, a charter member of the Garden State Philharmonic, volunteered in the emergency and recovery rooms at the local hospital, delivered Meals on Wheels, received phone for a crisis hotline, and attended any opera that she could get to. Later, choral music and the Toms River Presbyterian Church choir became her first love.

While being a homemaker 24/7 she also managed to be the first mate on a 40' ocean racing sailboat, an excellent navigator, and spent 6 weeks on the boat each year with Jack. Traveling with her grandchildren was also one of her greatest joys, especially without their parents.

Nancy is survived by her sister Susan Gorham, her sister-in-law Barbara Whittle, her daughter Susan (David, Lynn, Karen), her son John (Laura), her daughter Ruth (Mark, Joshua, Jamie) and her daughter Cynthia (Rob, Beth, Matt) as well as four great grandchildren. She will be fondly remembered and sorely missed.

Please, no flowers. Contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice in her honor.

# Tribute Wall

AH

“ I just found this. I did Nancy's hair for years till she moved from Island Heights and she was a great lady. I loved our chats and she and Jack were very good to me and Ken. I still have two wing chairs from her home that we love. She loved forsythia and every time I see it I think of her.

Alana Hoff - February 11 at 11:32 AM

SU

“ Nancy and I shared the love of opera and would attend the saturday afternoon performances of the metropolitan opera company. We would laugh our way into the city and enjoy each others company. She was a wonderful older sister,very generous with her time and treasure and will be so missed.

Susan - September 01, 2025 at 07:09 PM



We lived next door to Jack and Nancy for about 30-35 years. Two beautiful and warm souls. It was a great loss to us when they moved. The loss of Nancy, as with Jack is much greater as now they are not even there for the warm hello. Deepest sympathy to al of the family. Saw the grandkids grow up on the dock.  
Vic & Judi

Vic Hatami - September 02, 2025 at 11:37 AM

CA

Im so sorry for your loss, my condolences to you all. The time I was able to spend with her was always filled with laughter and enjoyment. She will be missed.

Colin Anderson - September 02, 2025 at 08:41 PM