

Joan Bennett Dishman

Joan Bennett Dishman, 78, passed away on Friday, Jan. 21, 2011, at Virginia Baptist Hospital. Joan was born Nov. 21, 1932, in Sharon, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Paul and Mary Bennett of Sharon. She attended Thiel College in Pennsylvania and Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg and graduated from the Medical College of Virginia in in Richmond, in 1954, with a degree in Physical Therapy.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, James D. Dishman and three children, James Bennett Dishman, of Lynchburg; Gayle Dishman Leonard (Tom), of Leawood, Kansas; and Samuel Armstrong Dishman, of Lynchburg. Also surviving are former daughter-in-law Susan Dishman, of Forest; five grandchildren, Joe and Will Dishman, of Forest; Martha, Virginia and Thomas Leonard, of Leawood, Kansas; and one sister, Mabel Bennett Shoaf, of Ellettsville, Indiana.

Joan was a well-known figure in local art and craft circles. Operating for more than forty years as "Eggshell Heirlooms" she became renowned for her handcrafted egg decorations which were displayed on national television in the White House. She was also a talented painter and an active member of the National Association of Decorative Painters, Blue Ridge Chapter. Many also knew Joan as a skilled cook and the author of two cookbooks as well as an enthusiastic collector of Santa Claus figures for nearly 50 years. She was also a member of the Timbrook Women's Club.

The family wishes to thank Joan's devoted friends and caregivers for their love and support during her illness.

To honor Joan's expressed wishes, there will be no service or visitation upon her passing. A private interment will be held at a later date.

Heritage Funeral Service and Crematory, (434) 239-2405, is assisting family,
www.heritagefuneralandcremation.com

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