



Frances Jacquelyn Brooks

March 13, 1923 - March 31, 2017

Frances Jacquelyn “Jackie” Brooks, 94, died March 31 surrounded by her family and the loving staff at Our Family Home in Worthington, Ohio. Jackie was an artist, designer, model, antiques dealer, seamstress and creative spirit known for transforming Goodwill “finds” into beautiful homes and wardrobes. She was an uncommon beauty, with high cheekbones and blue eyes, who turned men’s heads even into her 80s. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, who taught everyone to speak up, be all you can be, and make a difference in the world. She was born March 15, 1923, to Robert and Mabel Kocher in Zanesville. She was the oldest of six Kocher children who grew up in the old Putnam neighborhood of Zanesville. She graduated from Zanesville Lash High School in 1941, and soon after married William Aber Brooks, who was stationed in Mobile, Ala. during WWII. After the war, they returned to Zanesville, where they raised three children in the raucous family home on Norwood Boulevard. During the late 1940s and early 50s, Jackie was a fashion model in print and on runways. She worked for local department stores, modeling new styles by wearing them through the busy aisles and posing in the storefront windows on Saturdays. When her youngest child, Christopher, went to kindergarten, she fulfilled a dream of becoming an artist by enrolling in her first art class at the Zanesville Art Institute (now Zanesville Art Center). She was soon “discovered” by Dr. Charles Dietz, who guided her into many media. Her paintings and assemblages now hang in homes throughout the country. Two pieces are in

the permanent collection at the Art Center. Her artistry transcended the formal as she created her own masterpieces, usually starting with a discarded bit of “junk” at the Goodwill or the local dump, then casting, gluing, painting and otherwise putting her touch on items for her and others’ homes. Jackie designed and made her own clothes, based on the latest couture collections. She was thought to be the only woman in Zanesville, Ohio, to subscribe to Women’s Wear Daily. In the early 1970s, she and her friend, Dot Hill, ran an antiques shop called The Cellar in Zanesville. They bought and sold antiques and collectibles, and Jackie also made and sold fudge, another creation for which she was known and appreciated by many generations of friends and family. In the early 1980s, a few years after the death of her husband, she moved to Worthington, to be near her family. She bought a house in Old Worthington, and enjoyed decorating it with her art and antiques. She also became a tennis player in her later years. She played at Olympic Indoor Tennis and on the Worthington Cardinal Booster summer team. She also belonged to the Worthington Presbyterian Church, Worthington Area Art League, Worthington Arts Council, Worthington Women’s Club, and Worthington Historical Society. Her house was featured on one of the Historical Society’s home tours. Jackie’s vibrant life was dimmed in her early 70s, when she began showing signs of Alzheimer’s Disease, which eventually took her life after a remarkable 20-plus year battle. Even into her final hours, she remained feisty and outspoken, finding ways to tell everyone that she was there and she still had an opinion. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bill; her sister, Colleen “Koky” Dishon; and her brothers, David, Paul, and Daniel Kocher; and her loving caregiver, Amy Greene. She is survived by her children, William (Jackie) Brooks, of Worthington; Candy (Stephen Rodocker) Brooks, of Worthington; and Christopher (Jennifer Rawlings) Brooks, of Los Angeles and New York. She is also survived by her grandsons, Peter Brooks (Jennifer) Rodocker of Westerville; William Brooks of Columbus; Robert Brooks of Worthington; and Harrison Brooks, of Portland, Oregon. Also surviving are seven great grandchildren: Millisa, Ashlee, Reese,

and Cohen Brooks; and Jackson, Lily, and Duke Rodocker. She is also survived by her brother, Robert (Connie) Kocher, of Canton; and many nieces and nephews. Calling hours will be 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at Rutherford Corbin Funeral Home, 515 High St., Worthington. Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Worthington Presbyterian Church, 773 High St, Worthington. A private burial will take place later at Zanesville Memorial Park.

Cemetery Details

Zanesville Memorial Park

Zanesville, OH

Previous Events

Calling Hours

APR 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
(614) 885-4006
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

APR 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Frances Jacquelyn Brooks*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I remember visiting your home in Zanesville before our family moved to Wisconsin and being enthralled by the unique features at every turn. I was especially intrigued by the swinging doors between the hallway and kitchen and the upstairs black and white bathroom. After reading about her life I wish I would've known her better. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Cousin Cindy Brooks Boudreau*

Cindy Brooks Boudreau - April 08, 2017 at 11:14 AM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Frances Jacquelyn Brooks.*



April 05, 2017 at 08:38 AM



“ *I will always remember the good times shared with Aunt Jackie, Uncle Bille and all of you. Her great creativity and vibrancy was a true gift for all of us. You are all in my thoughts and prayers as you grieve her loss. Cousin Patty*

Pat Gaska - April 05, 2017 at 07:43 AM

SA

“ *Bill and Jackie,
Want you to know I'm thinking of you and so sorry.
What a full life your mother had,I did not know she did all this,I just
knew her as your mom. Sandy Boedeker*

Sandy - April 03, 2017 at 01:25 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Frances Jacquelyn Brooks.*



April 03, 2017 at 12:55 PM

KS

“ *"Jachhee" my Noah called her . I would take him there after
preschool to see her. She always had Nola wafers and peanut
butter ... My memories are too long for this page here are things I
think about.. Driving to look for wild flowers to press and drive;) She
was a master gardener .. She loved art and we did that together . I
have a wooden purse she painted for me;) I used to love going to
her antique store and visiting and she would tell me about
everything I touched or looked at. She most always took me junking
and thrifting and taught me well;) she turned me into eating 12 grain
bread and drinking tea and she made me the best toast I loved
her so much. My last memory of her and I before I moved away was
sitting on the curb with her eating ice cream .. we also stayed up
late looking at fashion magazines and made collages when I stayed
with her. She made me a strawberry dress for school and I always
knew where to get cinnamon graham crackers when I needed a
snack just go in the back door ;) she always had them for me;))) ♡
♡♡♡♡♡*

kimberley solomon - April 03, 2017 at 11:59 AM