



Frances Cooke Monahan

February 5, 1932 - January 4, 2021

Cooke-Monahan, Frances “Fran”

Cairo- Frances (Cooke) Monahan, of Catskill, age 88 years, one month shy of her 89th birthday passed away peacefully Monday January 4, 2021. She was the daughter of Roy and Beatrice Freer. Fran was a beloved teacher for over 40 years in the Cairo-Durham school district and was recently inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2019. Frans passion was teaching children to read. She co-founded the “Babes in Bookland” program in 1985, was a Literacy Volunteer, where she assisted adults in learning to read, an active member for over 50 years in the Monday Council Club of Cairo, and was also a member of the Cairo United Methodist Church.

Heaven gained an angel Monday, Fran was the most giving, gracious and loving person you could ever meet. She cared and loved deeply for all of her family, friends, and students. Wherever she went there was always someone saying “Hi Mrs. Cooke” and sharing a story on how she influenced them. The memories she created with each and everyone of us will be cherished.

She was predeceased by her husband Ralph Cooke, her son Mark Cooke, her husband John Monahan, her brother Roy Freer, Jr., and her sister Peg Landon. Fran is survived by her grandchildren Taylor and Tristan Cooke, daughter in law Roberta Cooke, step - daughters Janice (Cooke) Slingerland, Joan (Cooke) Keppler, Eileen (Monahan) Dees, Terry Monahan-Wright, step - sons John Monahan Jr., Michael Monahan, sister in law Susan Freer, as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Services will be held at the Richards Funeral Home, 29 Bross St., Cairo, NY, 12413 on Saturday January 9, 2021 from 9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. with graveside services following at 10:30 A.M. at the Catskill Town Cemetery, Jefferson Heights, Catskill, N.Y.

In lieu of flowers please consider a contribution in Frans memory to Dollars for Scholars, attention Justin Karker, c/o Cairo Durham CSD, 1301 N.Y. 145 Cairo, NY 12413.

Condolences may be made at www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net.

Cemetery Details

Catskill Town Cemetery

Jefferson Avenue
Catskill, NY 12414

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Richards Funeral Home - Cairo
P.O. Box # 383
29 Bross Street
Cairo, NY 12413
(518) 622-9503
info@richardsbradysfh.com

Graveside

JAN 9. 10:30 AM (ET)

Catskill Town Cemetery
Jefferson Avenue
Catskill, NY 12414

Tribute Wall

LL

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Linda Lawrence - February 02, 2021 at 09:11 AM

LL

Mrs. Cooke and I ...
Mrs. Cooke was my Third Grade Teacher.
🙏 She was always so very kind.

Linda Lawrence - February 02, 2021 at 09:12 AM

KL

“Mrs. Cooke” was my favorite teacher. In the third grade, at “the old” Dietrich Building, she believed in me and gave me confidence. She continued to give me confidence, throughout my life. I became proud to become “family” with her and call her Aunt Fran, for over forty years. Godspeed to her kind soul.
Keith Lampman-Perlman

Keith Lampman-Perlman - January 09, 2021 at 08:06 AM

LL

Mrs. Cooke was wonderful

Linda Lawrence - February 02, 2021 at 09:09 AM

SD

“ *Sheila Devers lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Sheila Devers - January 08, 2021 at 10:28 PM

DM

“ *We felt blessed that Mrs. Cooke taught 2 of our children. She was such a warm person, always sharing a smile and kind words. She was a positive influence on all students and the community and we admired her so much.*

Dana and John Masselli - January 08, 2021 at 11:24 AM

TS

“ *Her kindness radiated. Always thought to share her time and some conversation with her former students. A truly special person who had a wonderful impact on so many.*



Tina Selner - January 08, 2021 at 10:04 AM

CS

“ *A wonderful friend and fellow teacher- A very special person and loving teacher always her students first ! The heavens have a new angel! Rest in Peace!*



Charlie Serro - January 08, 2021 at 09:45 AM

BA

“ *Bill Arp lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Bill Arp - January 08, 2021 at 07:53 AM

BG

“ *Betty And Don Gibson lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Betty and Don Gibson - January 07, 2021 at 05:26 PM

LL

“ *Linda Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Linda Lawrence - January 07, 2021 at 11:25 AM

JL

“ *JENNIFER LEIS lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



JENNIFER LEIS - January 07, 2021 at 10:53 AM

KP

“ *Kathy Proper lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Kathy Proper - January 07, 2021 at 03:01 AM

PS

“ *Patty Sutter lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Patty Sutter - January 06, 2021 at 09:47 PM



“ *Marlo Parker lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Marlo Parker - January 06, 2021 at 07:34 PM

BS

“ *Barbara Spohler lit a candle in memory of Frances Cooke Monahan*



Barbara Spohler - January 06, 2021 at 04:45 PM

BS

I had the great fortune to have Fran as a teacher for both second and third grade. She was a gifted teacher and wonderful human being. I'll miss you Mrs. Cooke!!

Barbara Spohler - January 06, 2021 at 04:47 PM

RG

Fran was my daughters third grade teacher and was always a pleasure to deal with. Her students loved her for both her warmth and dedication. I also knew Fran personally and never ever saw her without a smile on her face and a pleasant word to say. She was also my Literacy Volunteer instructor and encouraged me in this endeavor. She was a pleasure to know and I am sad to hear of her passing. Truly a special person!

Renate Guilmette - January 06, 2021 at 05:06 PM

DO

I met Mrs. Cooke and her son Mark when I started to attend Cairo Methodist Church in 1980. Both were always so friendly and made me feel very welcome.

Although I moved out of the area, I would run into Mrs. Cooke when visiting my parents. She always went out of her way to greet me and have a short chat.

During the COVID shutdown, my mother gave me Mrs. Cooke's phone number. Every few weeks I would call Mrs. Cooke and we had a lovely conversation. She was a wonderful listener and had an outstanding memory. I greatly enjoyed hearing stories about her childhood. Since we both are/were teachers, we shared classroom stories. I sincerely looked forward to and enjoyed our conversations. I will miss her dearly.

Donna (daughter of Don and Betty Gibson)

Donna Gibson Obeldobel - January 07, 2021 at 09:26 AM

BB

Fran was such a lovely, caring person. We loved her. Heaven has indeed welcomed another angel. We send our sincere condolences to her family.

Bill and Kathy Boyer - January 07, 2021 at 10:53 AM

PP

My heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Cooke's family; she was a wonderful lady and a great teacher. I had the honor of her kind teaching practices in 3rd grade. She was truly a special person. My prayers are with you all, as I know she will be missed.

Pamela Pisarri - January 08, 2021 at 02:40 PM

SS

Are sincere condolences to Frans family she was a sweetheart and a very caring lady we were lucky that we got to know her .

Stephen Sirianni - January 10, 2021 at 12:58 PM