



Elizabeth Smith Bagby

March 25, 2018

Elizabeth Smith Bagby, 96, died March 25th, 2018. She was often described as the energizer bunny because of her unlimited and boundless energy. Her calendar was always full with gardening, social and musical events. Betsy was born in Lincoln MA, attended Concord Academy and Finch College. She met her husband John (Jack) Bagby at a Princeton football game and they married in 1942. She and Jack began their life together in New York City, moving to Birmingham MI in 1946. Betsy was a member of the Birmingham Village Woman's Club, Michigan Opera, President of the Birmingham Junior League and a founding member of the Birmingham Unitarian Church. In 1977, Betsy and Jack bought a condo on Siesta Key and she began her involvement with the Sarasota community, becoming a member of the Sarasota Garden Club, a sustainer in the Junior League of Sarasota, a supporter of the Key Chorale and a founding member of the Sarasota Opera Association . Betsy is survived by her son J. Sumner Bagby (Irene Goodell) and daughter, Cynthia Scripps Bagby. The family would like to thank those persons who cared for Betsy over the past years. A memorial service will be held at the Sarasota Opera House, 61 N. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236, on May 2, 2018. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the Sarasota Opera Association, Development Department, 61 N. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236, the Junior League of Sarasota Endowment Fund, 3300 S. Tamiami Trail, Unit #3, Sarasota, FL 34239 and the Sarasota Garden Club, 1131 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236.

Tribute Wall

CK

“ Even though I have not seen Betsy in years, she is impossible to forget. I knew her from the Junior League of Sarasota. And when I think of Betsy, I think "Smiling Joy" because that is what I saw in her. Rest in peace dear Betsy, even though I know that Heaven will be made even more beautiful with your green thumb!

Cindy Kaiser - April 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Betsy brought rays of sunshine whenever she came into the offices on the third floor of the Opera House to meet up with her dear friend Deane and to spread cheer to all of us with her wit, dry sense of humor and great kindness. Betsy made the world a better place.

David Guyet - April 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Betsy was one of the first people we met when we moved to Sarasota in 1995. She immediately became a very special friend of our hearts. Her kindness, sweet and loving personality made her one of our dearest friends. We shall miss her and her sunny smile very much and send our deepest sympathy to Sumner, Cynthia and their families.

Margarete and Russell Wiltshire - April 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Betsy had such a beautiful spirit and is the example of a life lived well and to its fullest. God made the world a better place when he created Betsy. Memories of her will be cherished fondly. My deep condolences to Sumner, Irene, Cynthia and to those friends in the community who loved her so.

Melissa Lane - April 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM

VB

“ *Sumner and family -*

Betsy was such a special lady. I can't imagine my active time and leadership in the Junior League of Sarasota without her counsel, encouragement, and support. I bet this is true for many, many more League members.

Sending you love, prayers, and comfort.

Veronica Brady - April 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Rest in peace Betsy. A special lady to all of us at the Sarasota Garden Cub.*

Kathryn Johnson

April 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM