



## Barbara Anne Scott

June 30, 1938 - January 21, 2021

Barbara Ann Milford Scott passed away January 21, 2021, after a courageous battle with cancer, at Talbot Hospice House in Easton. She was 82 years old.

Barbara is survived by her husband, George McGuire; her daughter, Makani Lew (nee Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Lew) and husband Rory Criss; and grandson, Xander Criss, of Aptos, CA; her daughter, Jessica Scott of Prince George's County; and her sister, Sarah (Sally) Milford Barnes and her husband, Philip P. McGarvey, of Nashua, NH. Barbara is also survived by a nephew, Tim Barnes, of San Diego, CA, and his wife, Richa Nand; a niece, Carrie Barnes of Seattle, WA, and her husband, Pete Graham, plus their son, Silas; and a niece, Leigh Barnes of San Francisco, CA, and her husband Jon Feldman, plus their sons, Alex and Miles.

Barbara Scott was a leader in her workplace as well as a role model to those around her. She spoke out against injustices in the 60s. She extended a loving hand to troubled youth in the 70s. She encouraged people around her to pursue and excel at all times. She also had a tender side where she had incredible empathy for the little animals and admiration for the beauty around her in nature, in art, and in music. By the end of her long life, she helped raise at least 72 kids and opened her home for free or cheap housing so they could have a place they could call their village center. She was loved as a friend and a parental figure. She played the tough guy, but she really had a very big

heart. She would befriend people of any age. Barbara bonded with everyone she encountered. For example, on the New York subway, within minutes of being in the train, she would somehow get into conversations with people and, lo and behold, they would discover something like they both came from a similar place in Pennsylvania and then go on to talk about other similarities. Or in a diner in Easton, she would know everything there was to know about the kind woman who served her blueberry pancakes. She looked at these encounters with everyone as a possible conversation and potential friend.

Barbara was born on June 30, 1938, in Lancaster, PA, the daughter of the late Russell Thorn Milford and Emily Mary Buckman Milford. She grew up in a family of two schoolteachers as parents, who much to her joy and perhaps chagrin, applied their educational lessons at home to both her and her sister, Sally. Daily lessons included working on perfect grammar, re-reading and discussing how Chaucer was the best example of society in print, and learning how to fix just about anything. Because of this foundation, she became the sharp witted, articulate, and directed woman people came to appreciate in her high school, college, and career.

Barbara graduated from Wyomissing High School in Wyomissing, PA, in 1956. She participated in many clubs and had a very close group of friends. Having her dad as her English teacher meant a lot to her.

In 1960, Barbara graduated from Earlham College, a small liberal arts Quaker college in Richmond, Indiana. Barbara recalled that Earlham provided a positive learning environment and encouraged community service and social justice. She made many friends that she talked about as truly wonderful at Earlham and at the Young Friends Committee of North America.

After graduating Earlham, Barbara worked as a teen-age program director in a YWCA in Passaic, NJ, for a year then went to Philadelphia and enrolled in a Masters Program at the University of Pennsylvania. This was a new

interdisciplinary program called Human Relations where she specialized in race relations. During the two years at Penn, she worked for the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends for the Race Relations Committee and was a salesperson for Friends Suburban Housing, a real estate firm established to open the suburbs to all interested buyers. This was an exciting and turbulent time in race relations, including a lot of violent counter-pressures to opening suburban housing to blacks and a lot of non-violent demonstrations for equal rights.

She left Philadelphia for Long Island, New York, and married Wilbur Lambart Lew. His four children, Art Lew, Phil Lew, Margaret Lew, and Roger Lew became part of her family. Barbara and Wilbur had a daughter in 1964, Makani Lew (nee Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Lew). They remained married for four years after which she returned with Makani to Philadelphia. It was there where Barbara first worked for the Urban League as a housing specialist and later was the housing planner for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

In 1969, Malcolm (Mal) Scott and Barbara married and lived in Philadelphia and opened their house to not only his children: Leigh Scott, Malcolm Scott, III, Lexi Scott, and Liz Scott, but also to about eight others who needed homes from the community. The result was a very busy home in her Germantown / Mt Airy neighborhood.

In 1974, Barbara and Mal and the kids moved to Cabot, Vermont, where they became the house parents for a group home called Sunwood. The next two years were exciting and taxing. There were eight foster kids at a time that were placed with them by the state as kids in need of care and supervision. The local community was not enthusiastic about the housing the state kids, but somehow all of the kids did well and were able to return to their homes.

In February of 1974, Barbara and Mal had a daughter, Jessica Scott. And while Mal cared for her, Barbara began her work at the Governor's Commission working on the Administration of Justice as the Juvenile Justice Planner. In the first year there, she co-wrote a paper on delivering police services in Vermont which led to some political upheaval that led to some positive changes in the corrections systems in Vermont. During her time at this job, she was a part of the successful closing of the state's reform school and of the state's prison and replacement of antiquated correctional facilities. At the end of her stay there, Barbara was promoted to deputy director of the agency and specialized in grants management.

In 1979, Barbara moved to the Washington, DC, area where she lived out the rest of her years. Barbara and her two daughters joined families with Forrest Forsythe and his four children: Scott, Lee, Todd and Melynda. Barbara's first job in the nation's capital was with a non-profit called the National Youth Work Alliance as the research and training director. From there she went to CSC and supported the Department of Energy on state programs needing technical assistance on block grant programs. She also supported the Joint Chiefs of Staff Nuclear Negotiations Directorate which, of course, was an entirely new view of life.

After a twelve year period with the small information technology company, CSC, she joined the federal government workforce, first with the Department of Education and then the General Services Administration (GSA) in the Chief Information Officers' offices. As always, she forged many long-lasting friendships with her workmates. She was known as someone who was a good listener, helped brainstorm solutions, and a good friend. One friend said she was grateful for Barbara for how she'd help talk through ideas to make sure there was a good balance of action with sound judgment.

When Barbara purchased her first home in College Park, Maryland, she lavished in spending the next two decades decorating it with beautiful Vermont furniture, carpets from faraway lands, gorgeous photos, and dishes from around the world. She had a passion for aesthetics and color.

Barbara was involved with the Farm and Wilderness camps in Vermont, serving on the board for six years and acting as chair of the board for two. She described it as a heavenly place for kids with its Quaker heritage and its practices of working to sustain living on the farms and in the wilderness. Her daughter Jessica worked at F&W as a nurses' assistant after having been a camper beforehand.

Barbara and George McGuire started their 18 year friendship in 2002 and were married in 2015 on the Queen Mary. Together, they spent a lot of time traveling and taking many gorgeous pictures of the landscapes, animals, and the beautiful cultures. Barbara said one of her most interesting trips was a cruise around the horn of South America with a jaunt to the Falkland Islands on the way. Barbara also travelled to some far distant and spectacular locations with her long-term friend from her days in Vermont, Caroline Taplin. The two travelers brought back many memories and photos from Iceland, twice to Turkey, and around the Baltic.

Barbara and George spent endless hours transforming their College Park, Maryland, backyard into a bird metropolis with too many bird feeders and squirrel distractions. From raccoons finding the entry to the cat door to critters leaping on the roof, they kept their cameras at the ready to record all the marvelous backyard fauna activity. Their other passion was to create a rambling English Tasha Tudor style garden with small curvy paths, small back houses, and a year round colorful rainbow of flora.

In the meantime, Barbara and George began to set up another home in

Easton, Maryland, which was close to one of her favorite birding locations, the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. They would go for the weekend and enjoy visiting the turtles and birds and other animals at the reserve followed by a stop to see the cute goats and fresh veggies at Emily's Produce or to pick up some delicious baked goods at the Amish Country Farmer's Market. If it wasn't birds, it was plants, which meant a visit to Garden Treasures where Barbara would inevitably find another plant or beautiful piece of pottery she just had to have.

Barbara's hobbies were plenty. From knitting hundreds of sweaters, hats, gloves, scarves and afghans for everyone to endless listening to the beautiful music of the National Symphony and the operas at the Met or to programs on NPR. You would often find Barbara curled up with a book or engrossed in a TV documentary. When she cooked a meal, she became the expert and created sumptuous wonders. She made fully equipped dollhouses with handmade furniture and functional electricity. The inside of her house became a jungle of many luscious plants from all of those stops to the plant store. Her most recent hobby of the past 10 years, though she would say it was more of an addiction, was everything involving the baseball, the Boston Red Sox in particular. Thanks to the MLB Extra Innings TV program, she was able to steadfastly refuse any offers to do something in the awful humid heat in Washington from April through September, and sometimes October, because she had a ballgame to watch. As she said, this yielded her never ending satisfaction.

When we think of Barbara, we think of a woman who was quite a leader. She overcame a many barriers. She pursued incredible academic and career goals. She explored new things without issue and generally excelled. She perceived everything around her with all her senses on full alert. She reached out to those around her in her daily interactions in an engaging and inclusive manner. We wish her next journey to be filled with good feelings, true joy, and

connectedness to beauty.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2021, at 5:00 pm EST, at Fellows, Helfenbein and Newman Funeral Home, P.A. 200 S. Harrison Street, Easton, MD.

In lieu of flowers, and in Barbara's honor, contributions may be made to Talbot Hospice, 586 Cynwood Drive, Easton, MD 21601

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 30. 5:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home  
200 S. Harrison Street  
EASTON  
EASTON, MD 21601

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Barbara Anne Scott*



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - January 30, 2021 at 04:27 PM

RS

*My deepest sympathies during your time of loss, my thoughts/prayers go out to the family during this difficult time.*

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**Robin Smith** - January 30, 2021 at 04:56 PM

BD

*Many fond recollections of Barbara still pop into mind, in this first anniversary month of her passing.*

*Happy to facilitate her crazy hobby of always finding more plants, shrubs, trees, and flowers for me to find a place for in her extensive gardens in College Park. Often would be apprehensive, but eventually enjoyed anticipating almost every time George & Barbara returned from their escapades to Easton and its many nurseries with new garden entrants. Barbara was convinced that we would always find a place, would always be able to "squeeze" in another item. Didn't matter that some trees had an expected growth rate to 30 feet, Barbara wanted to enjoy what they looked like "now," so, in the ground they would go.*

*One summer, a few years ago, my wife and I had an anniversary trip to England and took a tour of the gardens of Christ Church College in Oxford. I chanced to take a few pix of a rock garden alongside a stream on the garden grounds. Shared the photos with Barbara.*

*...Within a week of our return from our trip, Barbara had plans for my summer project! Yes, a rock garden!*

*And two weeks later, after a few nursery trips, there was a ton of rock and stone sitting in their driveway! Impulsive yes, but always an eye for anything that would beautify her home. So proud to have played a part in her happiness.*

*Was much fun, miss the opportunity much. George & Barbara definitely had the top gardens surrounding their home in College Park !*

*With fondest we remember Barbara, not as a client, but as a friend.  
Bob & Anne*

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**Bob & Anne Daniel** - January 09, 2022 at 02:33 PM



“ *Barbara Anne Scott*

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Barbara Anne Scott*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Barbara Anne Scott*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *George,  
sending you heart felt condolences. Barbara was a very special  
person. I will always be grateful for her advocacy in the work place  
and her willingness to mentor others.  
Blanche*

**Blanche Smith** - March 17, 2021 at 02:23 PM



“ *I met Barbara first in 2006 at GSA. Over the years, I got to know her  
and she turned into a good friend from being a client! I think that's  
how she was...making you feel at ease and very likable/personable  
so that you feel comfortable sharing everything with her. I was  
always impressed with the way she faced all her health challenges  
and kept going like a Energizer Bunny! While most people in her  
situation would be content with simply getting by daily routine, she  
was always out and about, enjoying nature, birds, flowers, and  
people! She was full of life, never complained, never saw her sad or  
down. Always curious to know everything about you and everything  
around her! I am sure she is at peace with what she accomplished  
in her life but I doubt she is resting...May her life inspire her family  
and everyone who knew her! My sympathies to George and rest of  
the family!*

**Mukesh dalal** - January 31, 2021 at 01:32 PM

MS

“ Thoughts, prayers and condolences to Barbara's family and many friends. I am so sorry to hear of her passing. I had not seen Barbara much the past few years but always enjoyed talking with her when she did venture back to GSA for a party or a retirement of a colleague. Barbara was one of a kind and will be missed by all.

*Mike Seckar*

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**Mike Seckar** - January 30, 2021 at 08:49 AM

RW

“ My deepest condolences on the loss of your wife, mother, sister, and friend. May your memories of her give you peace and comfort during this difficult time.

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**Raynette Williams** - January 29, 2021 at 11:17 AM

MH

“ I'm so sorry for your loss George. My condolences to you and your family during this very difficult time. My prayers are with you and your family.

*Melody Hirt*

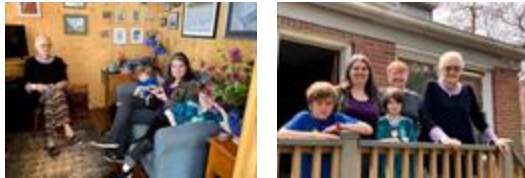
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**Melody Hirt** - January 29, 2021 at 07:42 AM

MF

“ I first met Barbara about 10 years ago or so at GSA. She was a force I like to say. I think that the word formidable describes her well "extremely impressive in strength or excellence."

*I feel lucky to have worked with her, and to have visited her and George with my family to enjoy sushi and chit chat about just about everything under the sun after her retirement. My young sons thought she was a hoot, and the feeling was mutual. The world has lost an inquisitive bright light. But heaven has gained the same. Rest in Peace Barbara. And my condolences to George and her whole family. -Monica Fitzgerald and family*



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Monica Fitzgerald - January 28, 2021 at 11:09 AM

PP

“ 13 files added to the album Memories Album



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Pam Phebus - January 28, 2021 at 10:03 AM

TF

“ As I knew Barbara was empathic and kind and could be a fierce advocate. She was good to me when I needed it most.

*The world is a better place because Barbara was in it.*

*My condolences to Barbara's children, to George, her extended family, her many friends, and all who benefited from her caring and advocacy.*

*Todd Forsythe*

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**Todd Forsythe** - January 27, 2021 at 04:09 PM

MB

“ I was blessed to have worked with Barbara for many years on the training and 508 team of GSA IT. Here constant dedication to detail and concern for those less fortunate than us was seen in here daily treatment of all of us. She was always looked to exploit the best in all of her employees and continue to allow them to grow under her leadership. May her memory be eternal in the council of the angels in Heaven. George and family may the positive memories she gave to all of us remain in your hearts forevermore.

*Mark Buchko*

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**Mark Buchko** - January 27, 2021 at 12:25 PM

QS

*Yup, Barb was definitely a rare gem.*

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**Quentis Scott-Adams** - January 29, 2021 at 06:52 PM

DE

“ *Barbara was one of the those people you will always remember. I fondly remember my first encounters with her at Education back when I was still very wet behind the ears. She was bold, brash, and smart as hell. Everyday alongside her, I learned more about Barbara, her fascinating life story, and her family.*

*She was authentic and a renaissance woman unlike I have ever encountered. Not too many people can quickly discuss highlights from the last Red Socks game and the last opera from the Saturday afternoon Met performance.*

*She had a major impact on my career, especially early on at the Department of Education and GSA. I consider myself very fortunate to consider her a friend and mentor. She will be missed and please accept my condolences, George, Makani, Jessica and other members of her family.*

*-Dennis Papula*

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**Dennis** - January 27, 2021 at 06:12 AM

QS



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**Quentis Scott-Adams** - January 29, 2021 at 06:53 PM

GM

“ 28 files added to the album Memories Album



George McGuire - January 26, 2021 at 07:26 PM

QS

*Hi George, I've been thinking a lot about Barbara lately for some reason. Now I know why 😞 I will always remember her as one of my best supervisors, a funny and inspiring woman with a love for her family and life, and an amazing history of just being a beautiful person. Not many folks are a good soul like Barbara. There is a special place for her in heaven for sure and certainly a spirit I will never forget. My deepest sympathy to you and the Scott family.*

Quentis Scott-Adams - January 26, 2021 at 08:00 PM

LH

“ George, I am so very sorry for your loss.  
Barbara was such a sweet lady.  
I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Larry Hale, GSA

Larry Hale - January 26, 2021 at 06:16 PM

PR

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Barbara A. Scott, and to my friend and VERA Executive board member George McGuire, as he informed me that his dear wife had passed on to heaven, on 21 January 2021. George, my heart is with you as you go through this sorrowful time, and I know that you have beautiful memories of the life that you and Barbara lived together, so hold them tightly, and know that someday, you will be able to see her again, as our time here on earth isn't our last stop, but only a transition to another existence ahead. God bless you and God speed to your heart's healing!  
Your friend and brother-in-arms Paul

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**Paul Ruiz** - January 26, 2021 at 04:21 PM

GA

“ My condolences to your family, and sending you prayers in this hard time. From, Gabrielle Perret (GSA)

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**gabrielle** - January 26, 2021 at 03:50 PM

DH

“ I did not know Barbara, but working in GSA IT, I hear from multiple people that she was a Pillar of our organization... She is obviously a Legend here within GSA. Not many people can say that. Additionally,. she is the spouse of veteran George McGuire. Military and Veteran spouses are critical to our great United States and have to deal with a lot of things that non Military/Veteran spouses have to deal with. The Men and Women spouses of our Veterans deserve much praise and appreciation. Thank you so much Barbara both for your service to our nation as a spouse and as a Government Civilian.  
Many prayers go out to you, George and your entire family and all of your friends.  
May you be with them always now! <3 <3  
David Hobley  
Veteran Employee Resources Association (VERA), GSA

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David Hobley - January 26, 2021 at 02:51 PM



“ Barbara stayed in contact with me for years after her retirement. She shared wonderful photos of her and George's travels. And great bird sanctuary pictures from places she loved. I will really miss her and her generosity of spirit. Brie Sansotta

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Brie Sansotta - January 26, 2021 at 02:37 PM

MH

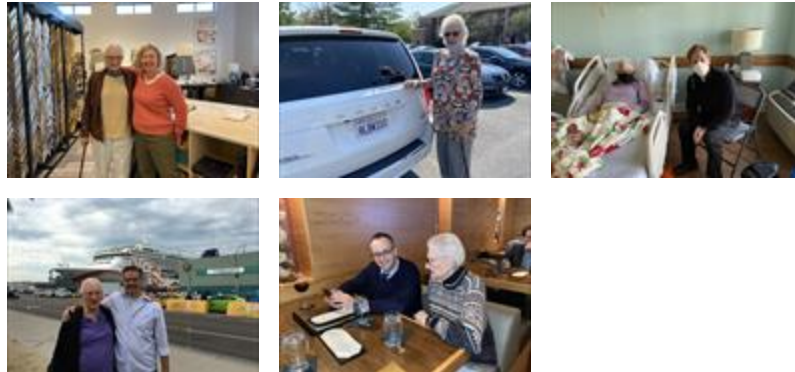
“ It was my pleasure to have worked with and, in time, become a friend of Barbara. Over the course of our 15+ years friendship, we came to know of and respect in each other a commitment to reasoned debate, clear language, and thoughtful separation of work and private life. Barbara was one of the most intriguing conversationalists it has been my pleasure to have known. Ready with a laugh or a compliment, she was as sincere as she was positive and outgoing. In all the years of our acquaintance I never heard her once complain. Barbara was an inspiration and a dear friend. I will miss her, but will find solace in the memory of a person so full of life.

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**Mick Harris** - January 26, 2021 at 11:26 AM

GE

“ 26 files added to the album Memories Album



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**George** - January 26, 2021 at 11:19 AM

GM

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



George McGuire - January 25, 2021 at 10:21 PM

PP

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Pam Phebus - January 25, 2021 at 09:51 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - January 25, 2021 at 10:47 AM