



Barbara Thomas

July 28, 1919 - May 17, 2019

Barbara Lane Thomas passed away on May 17, 2019, in her home at Heron Point, a retirement community in Chestertown, MD. Barbara was born July 28, 1919, in Summit, NJ, the daughter of Ralph Douglas Lane and Grace Kane Lane. She was predeceased by brothers, John Burns Lane and Franklin Douglas Lane; nieces Alison Lane Murphy and JoAnne Lane Carl; grandniece, Beth Tamburini; grandnephew, Michael Greene; and great-grandnephew Michael Corb. In 1950, she married William Wensley Thomas and was widowed in 1981. They had no children.

Always important to Barbara were family, God, community, and country. Known to everyone in the family as Aunt Barbara, she held a respected and central role. Family members who, in passing through childhood, spoke of her as “the one who must be obeyed” came to understand that she was truly kind in a thoughtful and no-nonsense way.

Barbara resided in Maplewood, NJ, until her marriage and then lived in Colts Neck, NJ, until her move to Heron Point in 1991. In Colts Neck, she was a member of the Colts Neck Woman’s Club and the Garden Club RFD Middletown NJ. She served on the Election Board of Colts Neck Township, the Planning Board, and the Environmental Commission. She was an active volunteer for many other service organizations.

After moving to Chestertown, Barbara served on the First Resident Council at Heron Point and as Manager of the Gift Shop. She was a member of the Chestertown Garden Club, a Master Critic (Emeritus) of the Landscape Design Council of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, and a member of the Kent Historical Society. She was active at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Chestertown and served as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister to the sick.

Barbara's generosity extended not only to her family and through her many acts of service, but also as a financial supporter of many worthy organizations. The Radcliffe Creek School in Chestertown, Chester River Health Foundation, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, VA, and St Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain, SD, were just some of the many recipients.

She had a lifelong passion for learning and traveled with Elderhostel (Road Scholar), took courses at Washington College and went on many educationally-centered cruises upon American rivers and around the world.

Aunt Barbara is survived by nephews, Douglas C. Lane (Gay), Robert D. Lane (Elisabeth), Michael D. Lane, and Patrick J. Lane (Maggie); nieces, Judith Lane Wiggin (John), Virginia Burns Lane (Michael Zupko), Janet Lane Greene (David), Margaret Lane Terranova (Angelo), Elizabeth A. Lane Barnes (Don), and Nancy Anne Lane.

As the matriarch of the ever-expanding Lane families, Barbara happily oversaw the lives of and gave sage advice to 26 grandnieces and grandnephews and 41 great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews.

A funeral mass will be open to the public and held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 30 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 508 High Street in Chestertown. Reception following in the Parish Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heron Point Benevolent Fund, 501 East Campus Avenue, Chestertown, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Thomas*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Barbara Thomas*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Barbara Thomas*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Mrs. Thomas was a very appreciated member of the "Friends of Wye Mill, Inc." for the last 13 years in the preservation of the the Old Wye Mill.*

We thank you, Mrs. Thomas , for your gracious contributions and our deepest condolences.

Rhonda Corder/ Office Manage

Rhonda Corder - November 25, 2019 at 10:09 AM



“ *Garden Club R.F.D. lit a candle in memory of Barbara Thomas*



Garden Club R.F.D. - July 17, 2019 at 01:57 PM

GR

“ I am writing to you as Corresponding Secretary of Garden Club R.F.D. in Middletown, NJ. This is the club that Barbara belonged to when she lived in Colts Neck, NJ. and the club of which she was President from 1972 to 1974. She had joined the club in 1963 and continued as a Non-Resident Member to this day.

While we know that sometimes there are just no words to soften the loss of a loved one, we, Garden Club R.F.D., are thinking of Barbara's family with sympathy and the hope that time will bring comfort to their hearts.

Ruth Korn for
Garden Club R.F.D.
P.O. Box 583
Lincroft, NJ 07738

Garden Club R.F.D. - July 17, 2019 at 01:46 PM

PO

“ To Barbara's dedicated family, and there are lots of you, I was so sorry to hear of her death. I am so sorry I didn't get to say "goodbye" to her. After some of you recently left Heron Point, she asked if we could sit together at dinner sometime. I said "sure!", and that I would let her know when was a good time. But, unfortunately, I was too late.

She was an amazing woman, and I am so glad I got to know her as well as I did. She was very fortunate to have such a caring family, and she was very aware of that. When she had her car accident a couple of years ago, she told me she was thinking about getting another car. I said to her, "are you crazy" !!. She smiled, but did not say she wouldn't do it.. So, I was very pleased and glad that one of you probably talked her out of it. I also told her she wouldn't know how to drive one anymore, not even a 5 year old car, due to all the new gadgets on them. I, for sure, would never buy another car - mine is 17 years old, and is just fine.

She will be greatly missed by all her friends here, and all her family, and especially by me.

I am sorry I will not be able to attend her funeral mass, due to a previous commitment, but she will certainly be in my thoughts. With deep sympathy to you all,

Pam O'Dowd

pamela o'dowd - May 25, 2019 at 04:03 PM

MR

“ Maryann Ruehrmund lit a candle in memory of Barbara Thomas



Maryann Ruehrmund - May 21, 2019 at 12:22 PM

MR

*Oh, no! It has always been such a pleasure knowing you, Barbara!
We've had such great chats! My heart-felt sympathies are with your
family. Maryann*

Maryann Ruehrmund - May 21, 2019 at 12:24 PM

LB

*“ It was an honor to meet you and your family and to be your nurse.
My condolences to Bob & Beth..John & Judy..Doug & Gay..Michael
& Ginger... and the rest of the family. You are in my thoughts.*

Lisa Blizzard - May 20, 2019 at 11:13 AM