



Mary U. Skelton-Womer

September 28, 1937 - January 14, 2022

Mary Eva Unruh Skelton, longtime resident of Chestertown, MD, passed away peacefully on Friday January 14th after a brief illness. She was 84 years old. Born in 1937, daughter of Roland and Dora Unruh, Mary was the second youngest in a 9-child farm family from Maryland, the only girl, with 8 brothers and whom she remained fiercely loyal to her throughout her entire life.

Mary was the valedictorian of her 1955 class of Chestertown High School and then attended Hood College on a full scholarship.

She married William J. Skelton II of Phillipsburg, PA, a graduate of Shepard College, in 1957 and who preceded her in death, in 2014.

A trailblazer of her time in the 60s, when very few women worked outside of the home, Mary was a local TV personality in Toledo, Ohio, hosting an evening TV magazine and as the teacher star of the children's show Romper Room, appearing as Miss Mary for many years. Even so, she still made sure she made a home-cooked meal every night for her family.

After returning to the Eastern Shore, Mary had a successful career as a public relations professional serving as the PR Director at Washington College for many years, a local advertising agency, and with several other organizations.

In the late 90s Mary was hired as the first Director of Tourism for Kent County Delaware, a role she held for nearly 15 years. Mary worked with state and local officials to enhance the growth of tourism and business development throughout the county, promoting such events as the Tour DuPont, the Dover Speedway, and the Delmarva Poultry Festival over many seasons. She was

an active and beloved member of the community and was the first female president of the Dover Rotary Club, embracing the “service before self” motto in a very personal way. While there Mary earned many awards and accolades for her many outstanding achievements.

Mary was a voracious reader, sometimes reading several books at one time, including reading cookbooks cover to cover. She loved to spend her free time with her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren at the beaches nearby in Rehoboth and Fenwick Delaware.

She was a generous, loving, and supportive mother, grandmother, and friend, who took great pride in being a planner and organizer of events both personal and professional throughout her lifetime.

Mary is survived by her son, William Skelton III of Easton, MD, his wife Susan, and their sons Christopher and Patrick; and daughter Judi Skelton Spann and her husband Bill of Jacksonville, FL and their two children Dylan and Kirstin; as well as two of her brothers, Donald Lee Unruh and Denny Unruh.

A Christian memorial service will be held on February 5 from 12:00 to 2:00 PM at the Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 130 Speer Road, Chestertown, MD

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

FEB 5. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Chestertown Location
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 778-0055
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Memorial Service

FEB 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

Chestertown Location
130 Speer Road
Chestertown, MD 21620
(410) 778-0055
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary U. Skelton-Womer*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 01, 2022 at 10:49 AM



“ *Mary U. Skelton-Womer*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Mary U. Skelton-Womer*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM

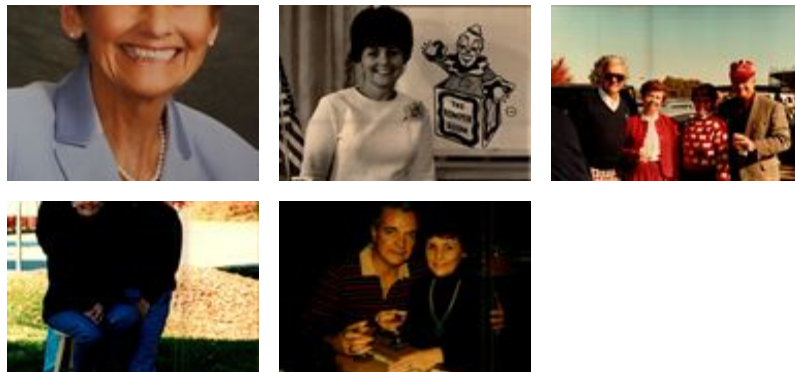


“ *Mary U. Skelton-Womer*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ 115 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - February 01, 2022 at 10:48 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of *Mary U. Skelton-Womer*.



January 26, 2022 at 11:52 AM



“ *Only the best memories of Mary! We loved traveling with her in Switzerland. What a love — and the best annual meetings anyone could ever put together for the Kent County CVB. We know she is missed and will continue to be by all who knew and worked with her.*

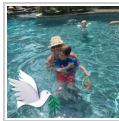
*J. Harry & Jackie Feldman
Wilmington, DE*

J. Harry Feldman - January 23, 2022 at 02:05 PM

SL

“ So sorry to learn of Mary's passing. We first met while attending Ocean View Church of Christ in Delaware. We usually sat right next to she and Gary, and many times we shared lunch after service. Also looked forward to their wonderful Christmas parties. Mary was the ultimate hostess. She was a lovely person with a genuine heart and it was a pleasure to know her. Our sympathy and prayers to her family.

Sylvia and Arthur Lawrence - January 21, 2022 at 01:20 AM



I enjoyed working with Mary. She had a great personality and was a very savvy lady.

Retha Arrabal - January 29, 2022 at 08:31 AM

TL

“ I am sorry to hear of Mary's passing. My sincere sympathy to Judi Sue and Bill Jr. and family. Mary and my Mom, Susie Leistner were “Best Friends” and shared so many wonderful times with family and friends. Mom and Dad loved to visit the Eastern seashore and see “The Chestertown Group”. I personally have fond memories of Mary and our family vacations to Ocean City and Rehoboth beach. I pray they are together in heaven enjoying their reunited good times. Much Love. Tim



Timothy Leistner - January 20, 2022 at 11:13 AM

FL

“ Frankie And Cathy Legg lit a candle in memory of Mary U. Skelton-Womer



Frankie and Cathy Legg - January 18, 2022 at 11:33 AM

PS

“ Mary and I started first grade together. We lived on farms in Kennedyville. I loved spending the night with her when we were really young. I lost touch with her but thought of her quite often. My sympathies to Donald Lee and Denny. I did not know her children but my heart goes out to them.. Phyllis Covey Susi



Phyllis Susi - January 18, 2022 at 07:16 AM

JH

“ Joan Horsey lit a candle in memory of Mary U. Skelton-Womer



Joan Horsey - January 18, 2022 at 06:10 AM

PJ

“ Sending prayers and hugs.



Patti Johnson - January 17, 2022 at 08:49 PM

JL

“ *John Larrimore lit a candle in memory of Mary U. Skelton-Womer*



John Larrimore - January 17, 2022 at 06:38 PM

BW

“ *With a heavy heart, I'm saddened by the passing of my Aunt Mary. Many happy memories, family reunions, holiday get togethers, time spent at the beach. Aunt Mary made the time to come visit my mon (Theresa) every week faithfully @ the nursing home. Judi brought Aunt Mary by to see mom & dad a few months back. It was a heart warming visit. Thank you Judi. Aunt Mary have a happy reunion with your heavenly family, I'm sure you are filling your brothers in on everything. Lots of laughs. You will be deeply missed. RIP Forever in Our Hearts. Hugs and Prayers for Judi and little Bill.*



Barb Unruh Wyman - January 17, 2022 at 02:50 PM