



Mildred Lucille Byrne

June 8, 1935 - May 29, 2020

Mildred Stevens Byrne, of Chestertown, died on May 29, 2020, at Resorts at Chester River Manor nursing home of lung complications due to the Corona Virus.

Millie was born on June 8, 1935, in Oak Park, IL, and spent her childhood in Illinois and Indiana. She had fond remembrances of Midwest traditions such as summer employment, de-tasseling corn, and bicycling to the Train Depot to watch the Burlington Zephyr go through. She attended Holy Cross School of Nursing in South Bend, IN, and became a Registered Nurse (RN) in 1956. She married Edward (Ted) Byrne also in 1956.

After a period as an Air Force wife in OH, she moved to NJ. She was quite active in the Boy Scout movement there for many years and was one of the first female recipients of the Silver Beaver award.

Following her husband's employment, she moved to Maine, Illinois and back to New Jersey. A major interest in her life was preservation of the vocation of hand corn farming. She helped found the National Corn Husking Association (NCHA) which runs historic hand corn husking contests every autumn in most Midwest states, and she was a corn item collector and officer of the Corn Item Collectors Association (CICA). Several years ago, she donated her extensive collection of pre-WWII com farming tools to that organization so it could be re-

enjoyed.

After her children moved on, she worked in the membership office of a YMCA in NJ. She joked that she knew everyone in town whose credit card bounced. In 2003, they moved to Chestertown, MD, to get away from the 9/11 shadow of the World Trade Center and experienced a happy retirement there.

Her parents, John and Margaret Stevens, pre-deceased her. She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Ted; children Tom Byrne (Janis) of Lambertville, NJ, John Byrne (Jean) of Fallston, MD, and Peggy Smigiel (Michael) of Chesapeake City, MD. A fourth child, Steven, pre-deceased her in California in 2006. She had six grandchildren, Christopher, Joe, Mike, Sarah, Ryan and Lauryn, of whom she was very proud. She also is survived by a brother, Thomas Stevens (Patricia) of Lebanon, TN, and a sister, Margaret Tierney in Columbus, OH.

She was proud of her ancestors who struggled to come to America from perennially war torn Poland. She was a firm believer in conducting a positive life and felt her reward was in a better world and the lives of her children. She will be remembered especially by the birds, squirrels, and dogs of the neighborhood.

Private funeral arrangements were made by Fellows, Helfenbein and Newman Funeral home of Chestertown, www.fhnfuneralhome.com (where) online condolences can be sent. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Foundation. Due to the Corona Virus outbreak, a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mildred Lucille Byrne*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Mildred Lucille Byrne*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Mildred Lucille Byrne*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM