



## Theresa M. Unruh

December 27, 1932 - March 18, 2026

Theresa M. Unruh passed away peacefully at home on March 18, 2026. She was 93 years old.

She was born on December 27, 1932, in Still Pond, MD, the daughter of the late Thomas Mann and Mary Elizabeth (Crossley) Mann. She attended Chestertown High School and thoroughly enjoyed attending the annual class reunions. In 1950 she married the love of her life, Donald Lee Unruh. She and Donald raised their children on the farm, where Theresa contributed to its operation in many ways, and where they frequently opened their home to friends and family in times of need. Later, she would work for Baltimore Business Forms and then Control Switch in Chestertown. In 1981, she and Donald opened Unruh's Coffee Shop, which they owned and operated until 1987. From 1999 to 2006 they owned and operated Unruh's Carryout, where Theresa was lovingly known as "The Soup Lady." In 2007, she retired to focus on family and spend time with her beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Theresa enjoyed bowling, reading, word puzzles and spent many hours socializing with friends and family. She and her husband absolutely loved to dance and could clear the floor while others joyfully watched. They attended as many social events as they could, including the Chestertown Cotillion where they would dance the night away. Theresa supported her husband and the community for many years preparing meals for the monthly meetings of the Kent Ruritan Club.

Theresa enjoyed traveling, whether it be a bus trip, a cruise, or simply camping with her friends and family. She particularly enjoyed her trips to Hawaii, Alaska, Florida and Wyoming. She was a talented cook and loved making recipes that had been passed down through generations and will continue to be passed down today. Theresa was known for her delicious soups, her chicken salad, and her irresistible rice pudding. She was also known to never be able to resist ice cream.

In addition to her husband of 72 years, she was preceded in death by a son, Tommy Unruh; daughter, Beverly Unruh; grandson, Brandon Middleton; sister, Alice Klein; as well as multiple foster siblings who she remained close with throughout the years.

She is survived by her children: Rick Unruh (Lynnette) of Laurel, DE; Joe Unruh (Robin) of Chestertown MD; Barbara Wyman (Jim) of King George, VA; Cathy Cole (Brian) of Centreville, MD; a daughter-in-law, Pat Unruh, Chestertown MD; 11 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; as well as a special friend, Doris Greiner.

Services will be held on Friday, March 27 at 12:00 pm at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home in Chestertown. A viewing will be held one hour prior, from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm at the funeral home. Interment to follow at Chester Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Theresa's memory to Compass Regional Hospice at 160 Coursevall Dr. Centreville, MD 21617.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home  
130 Speer Road  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

MAR 27. 12:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home  
130 Speer Road  
Chestertown, MD 21620  
<http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com>

## Burial

MAR 27 (ET)

Chester Cemetery  
Chestertown, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Theresa M. Unruh* ”



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - March 26 at 12:30 PM

GW

“ *My condolences to the family.* ”



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**Gwen Walker** - March 26 at 08:54 PM

SB

“ *So very sorry for the loss of your mom.* ”



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**Stefanie&David Blyman** - March 26 at 12:13 PM

SP

“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Ms. Theresa, she was a wonderful lady. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family.



Stephanie Price - March 26 at 12:07 PM

CE

“ Charles & Donna Edwards lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Charles & Donna Edwards - March 26 at 10:28 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Theresa M. Unruh.



March 25 at 01:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Theresa M. Unruh.

March 25 at 09:13 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Theresa M. Unruh.*



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March 25 at 09:13 AM



“ *Harriette Hall lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh*



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**Harriette Hall** - March 23 at 09:06 PM



“ *My condolences to Cathy and family.*

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**Holly Johnson** - March 23 at 03:04 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of this. I want to send sincere condolences to Ricky, Joey, Barb and Kathy. Thinking of you at this time.*

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**Larry Faulkner** - March 23 at 10:20 AM



“ *My Sincere Condolences to Cathy, Barbara, Joey and Ricky and Families on the loss of Ms Theresa. Heaven has gained another Angel. Keeping you all in thoughts and prayers. Randy Moore*

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**William Moore** - March 23 at 08:16 AM

SS

“ Shirley Sutton lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



shirley sutton - March 23 at 07:57 AM

PM

“ Peggy And Moe lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Peggy and Moe - March 22 at 02:07 PM

JY

“ June Yeager lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



June Yeager - March 22 at 01:24 PM

MF

“ Marilyn Ford lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Marilyn Ford - March 22 at 01:18 PM

SW

“ Theresa was a lovely person. We enjoyed our trips together. We went were on a Caribbean cruise with her and Donald Lee and many weekend trips together to Bishops head. Her cooking skills were the best , especially her Texas Chocolate Cake.



Shirley Williams - March 21 at 05:05 PM

LC

“ Rick, Barbara,Joe and family's So sorry to hear of your moms passing.

larry Collier - March 21 at 07:19 AM

FD

“ Frankie And Jane Dill sent a virtual gift in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Frankie and Jane Dill - March 20 at 09:03 PM

RA

“ Mama Theresa was a mom to everyone. One of the most caring and giving people you'd ever meet. I will always remember the year I lost my mother and Theresa made sure I knew that she was counting on Mark and me to come spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with the family that year and years to follow. She was truly a treasure. Mark and I are so sorry for your loss.

Rita Arnold - March 20 at 09:00 PM

SM

“ Shirley Manning-Worriow lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Shirley Manning-Worriow - March 20 at 05:54 PM

SM

“ Too many memories to just name one. Still have and use the silverware she gave me when I moved out on my own. “Aunt Theresa” thank you for the memories, the laughter and sharing your family with us. You will be greatly missed.

Shirley Manning-Worriow - March 20 at 05:53 PM

TM

“ Condolences to the Unruh family  
Terry and Paul



Terry Milash - March 20 at 05:46 PM

LP

“ Miss Theresa was a lovely lady inside and out.  
A hard worker, always busy and had a heart of gold. ❤️❤️



Lee Phillips - March 20 at 05:44 PM

BA

“ Mom I miss you 😭



Barb - March 20 at 05:39 PM



“ Brenda Biddle sent a virtual gift in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Brenda Biddle - March 20 at 05:33 PM

DN

“ Debbie And Bob Nickerson lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Debbie and Bob Nickerson - March 20 at 04:24 PM

DN

Thoughts and prayers are with the Unruh family....Always loved and admired Theresa and remember her as a Sweet and hard working women!

Debbie and Bob Nickerson - March 20 at 04:25 PM

NT

“ Nancy Toy lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Nancy Toy - March 20 at 04:16 PM

MU

“ Mary Ellen Unruh lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Mary Ellen Unruh - March 20 at 03:17 PM

JG

“ Jeff And Vicky Galt lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Jeff and Vicky Galt - March 20 at 02:15 PM

FL

“ So sorry for your loss. What a wonderful, caring woman. Sending love and keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers



Frankie and Cathy Legg - March 20 at 01:00 PM

SC

“ Thoughts and Prayers to you all.



Shana Corder - March 20 at 10:12 AM

JH

“ Joan Hatcherson lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



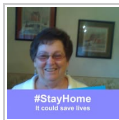
Joan Hatcherson - March 20 at 10:07 AM



“ Jean Payne lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Jean Payne - March 20 at 08:34 AM



She was a sweet lady.

Jean Payne - March 20 at 08:35 AM

LW

“ *Louis And Betty Wheat lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh*



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**Louis and Betty Wheat** - March 20 at 08:18 AM

DB

“ *Sending love and prayers to Mrs. Unruh's family. She was such a sweet lady.*



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**Diane and David Baxter** - March 20 at 06:02 AM

JS

“ *Jeanette Stubbs lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh*



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**Jeanette Stubbs** - March 20 at 04:25 AM

JF

“ *Jane Davis Feigleson lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh*



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**Jane Davis Feigleson** - March 19 at 09:49 PM

AD

“ Lots of love and prays to you guys ❤️❤️



Ashley Diem - March 19 at 09:17 PM

JW

“ Josie Elburn Wersten lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Josie Elburn Wersten - March 19 at 07:18 PM

LM

“ Lee And Susan McGinnis lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh



Lee and Susan McGinnis - March 19 at 06:31 PM

RC

“ Love and prayers to the family. David & Regina



Regina Crossley - March 19 at 06:06 PM

BA

“ *To the family, sending thoughts and Prayers to everyone at this difficult time.*



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**Barbara Mills Allen** - March 19 at 05:01 PM

JS

“ *Janet Seward lit a candle in memory of Theresa M. Unruh*



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**Janet Seward** - March 19 at 04:17 PM