



## Katherine L. Barto

January 18, 1934 - August 16, 2021

Katherine Louise (Welker) Barto, “Kitty”, 87, passed into eternal life at Emerald Rehab and Healthcare Center, Elizabethtown, on Monday, August 16, 2021. She had been under hospice care.

Born in 1934 in Coal Township, Northumberland County, Katherine was the daughter of the late Katherine B. (Kessler) and J. W. Harold Welker. Around 1943, the family moved to Marietta, where her father had taken a job at the old Marietta Depot.

Katherine was a graduate of the former Marietta High School, Class of 1951. She worked for many years at the Donegal Mutual Insurance Company and retired in 2007 as a receptionist at the Lancaster County District Attorney’s Office. At the DA’s office, she enjoyed meeting many local reporters and political figures.

She enjoyed Bible study, puzzles, gardening, reading, making cards, collecting pens and stationery, watching classic movies and TV shows, winning prizes in games played at the nursing home, and spending time with her family and her cats. She was an excellent cook in her earlier years, particularly known for her Christmas cookies and her barbecue. Per her granddaughter, her vegetable soup was the best. She was a stickler for spelling and grammar, so hopefully this obituary meets her standards!

She was a devoted Elvis Presley fan, and her family finds some comfort in the fact that she passed on the anniversary of the King’s death.

Surviving are three children: Donna Rieker, wife of James, of Horseheads, New York; Warren “Bud” Fletcher, husband of Christine, of Mount Joy; and Charles Barto, husband of Hollie, of Lancaster; five grandchildren: Anthony Fletcher, husband of Baylee, Lititz; Michelle Depaolo, wife of Donald, Horseheads, New York; Christina Cohen, wife of Jordan, New York City; Tracy Harwick, companion of Gordon Wolgemuth, Marietta; and Daniel Barto of Lancaster; and seven great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the staff at Emerald Rehab and at Grane Hospice.

The family requests no flowers; please contribute to the animal charity of your choice.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

# Comments

---



“ An external video has been added.



Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc - August 25 at 03:35 PM

---



“ Hollie and Charles, from my family to yours, we are hoping for solace and eventual healing during this time of loss. You are in our prayers. Warm Regards, Kim Pandola



Kim Pandola - August 24 at 10:48 AM

---



“ K Celesky lit a candle in memory of Katherine L. Barto



**k celesky** - August 22 at 07:50 PM



“ Kitty was a beautiful soul with a big heart I was always welcome in her home . I enjoyed many conversations with her and we exchanged many cards and letters. It was a privilege to be her friend. I will miss her.

**k celesky** - August 22 at 07:54 PM



“ Thanks Kelly.

**Charles Barto** - August 23 at 12:47 PM



“ My condolences to you, Charles and to your family! I will be thinking of you and praying for peace during this time for your guys!

**Jeane Oellig** - August 23 at 04:04 PM

---



“ Kitty was one of the strongest, most resilient women I ever met. It was an honor to know her and to work with her. She loved her family so much. I am sorry for your loss.

In Sympathy,

Susan Ellison

**Susan Ellison** - August 22 at 12:21 PM



“ Thank you so much.

**Charles Barto** - August 23 at 12:49 PM



“ I went to school with Kitty. Went to her home for many Halloween and birthday parties. She was a lovely person. So very kind, caring and thoughtful of others. Sending you and all the family my most sincere sympathy.

**Maryann Kraus** - August 23 at 09:56 PM