



Betty Jane Gruber

September 1, 1932 - December 30, 2023

Betty Jane Gruber, 91, of Bainbridge, entered into rest on December 30, 2023 surrounded by family and friends. Born in Rapho Township, she was the daughter of the late Herman and Dora (Hossler) Ginder. She was the wife of the late Elmer Gruber who died in 2018. Together they managed a dairy farm for over 50 years. The farm is still owned by members of the family.

Betty attended the one room, Garfield School and later graduated from Hempfield High School in 1950. Growing up she was active in 4-H, one year showing a Grand Champion steer. Betty learned how to grow a productive garden especially sweet corn. Even though she was busy with eight children, her generosity extended outside the family circle, feeding many neighborhood children as well.

Betty is survived by seven children, Sandra (Dennis) Witmer, Robert (Rebecca), Kenneth (Kristina), J. Merle (Barbara), Mary Ann (Al) Horsfield, Diane Gruber-Strickland (Steven), and Phillip (Michele); a daughter-in-law, Barbara Detz; a sister, Nancy Ladd of Florida; twelve grandchildren; seventeen great grandchildren (with two more on the way) with whom she just recently shared a festive Christmas.

She was preceded in death by a son, Gerald Sr., and a granddaughter, Sarah Horsfield.

A memorial service honoring Betty's life will be held at Word of Life Chapel, 139 Wickersham Rd, Bainbridge, PA 17502 on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 3 PM. Family and friends will be received at the church following the service.

Interment will be private at Chiques Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Word of Life Chapel (address above), Hospice and Community Care, 685 Good Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601, Hope's Haven, 1966 Stone Mill Drive, Bainbridge, PA 17502 or St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-194.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 7. 3:00 PM (ET)

Word of Life Chapel
139 Wickersham Road
Bainbridge, PA 17502

Visitation

JAN 7. 4:00 PM (ET)

Word of Life Chapel
139 Wickersham Road
Bainbridge, PA 17502

Tribute Wall

CB

“ I heard about Betty Gruber first from my older sister, Mary Ruth Espenshade. . .then I was in Gingrich's Store and I saw this "sweet lady"~she seemed so "bubbly"~we said "hello" to each other, and as we talked I was thinking, "was this the Betty Gruber that I'd heard such "nice things" about? And yes, she was Betty! We have been friends ever since! Our daughter Marian worked with Betty's daughter, Sandy, at "Byer's Bake Shop" years ago! Christy & I visited Betty & Elmer over the years~and the last time we visited Betty, she said "Come again"~and sadly that did not happen~Christy got "Spinal Stenosis", which affected his walking, etc. And this past May he had "a stroke",and in November we brought him to "Pleasant View" in Manheim~and on New Year's Day I moved into an apartment here as well~however Christy is in "Skilled Care"~as the stroke has caused damage, sad to say! So "many adjustments" are on the 'menu' right now for me. . .I'm trying to stay "Upbeat", rather than "Beat Up"!! I am sorry for "the loss of your wonderful Mother"~but at the same time I'm rejoicing that she is now in "her Heavenly Home" with Jesus~and her beloved Elmer!! And you children do have our sympathy~God comfort you with many good memories, as you meet "the challenge of adjusting to Mother's absence here"! And be assured of the promise of "Absent from the body, present with the Lord"! You are in our prayers!!
Christy & Arlene Becker

Christy & Arlene Becker - January 07, 2024 at 03:43 PM

DI

“ Diane lit a candle in memory of Betty Jane Gruber



Diane - January 06, 2024 at 05:47 PM

CW

“ Thoughts & Prayers for the entire Gruber Family. Betty was a wonderful, dear person. Will miss seeing her & talking to her. We couldn't have had nicer neighbors!
Love, Cindy Walters

Cindy Walters - January 06, 2024 at 07:37 AM

SP

“ My thoughts are with the Gruber family. Betty was always so kind.

Steve Prescott - January 03, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kimberly Kleinhans - January 03, 2024 at 12:05 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kimberly Kleinhans - January 03, 2024 at 12:02 AM

KF

“ Grandma was someone who gave her whole heart to everyone she met. She never held a grudge or held judgement. Anything you needed she welcomed you with open arms and opened her home to all. I can only hope to be a mother as great as you were 💜 You will be greatly missed Grandma, love you always.



Kristin Fetter - January 02, 2024 at 08:07 PM

DI

Very well said Kristin

Diane - January 06, 2024 at 05:46 PM