



Effie Ruth Eshelman

October 1, 1926 - March 25, 2024

Effie Ruth Eshelman completed her earthly journey on Monday, March 25, 2024 after living a full life of 97 years. She was preceded in death by her husband of 68 years, Rev. James M. Eshelman. Prior to moving to Brethren Village in 2003, they lived their life on the family dairy farm in Mount Joy Township.

Effie was the daughter of John E. Eshleman and Ruth (Forney) Eshleman. She was born in Mount Joy Township on October 1, 1926. She is survived by one brother, Dr. J. Ross Eshleman and preceded in death by sisters, Mildred Eshleman, Orpha (Eshleman) Hayes, Joyce (Eshleman) Marks, brother Dr. Robert F. Eshleman, daughter Lucina A (Eshelman) Brubaker and son-in-law David Brubaker (husband of Lucina). Effie's surviving children are Cynthia (wife of Michael Studebaker) of Mount Joy; and Timothy (husband of Susan Huysers Eshelman) of State College. Grandchildren are Peter Brubaker (husband of Erin Swaney) of Austin, TX; Robin Brubaker (husband of Meghan Dabkowski) of New Castle, DE; Emily (Studebaker) Valentine (wife of Chris Valentine) of Cary, NC; Kristie (Eshelman) Dombroski (wife of Stephen Dombrowski) of Midlothian, VA; Scott Eshelman (husband of Katie (Beegle) Eshelman) of Dayton OH; and Bethany (Eshelman) Rummel (wife of Dylan Rummel) of State College, PA. Great grandchildren are Samantha Valentine, Jacob Valentine, and Nathaniel Valentine.

Effie graduated from East Donegal High School in 1944 and went on to attend Elizabethtown College. She was a long-time member of the Florin Church of

the Brethren where she served with her husband as a deacon, Jr. High advisor, and Bible School director. She also sang in the church choir and directed the children's choir for many years. Effie's life verse was Galatians 5, the fruits of the spirit. Having the gift of hospitality, their home was always full of guests, evidenced by entries that fill multiple guest books. For many years, the family hosted fresh air children during the summer and at Christmastime. Effie will be remembered for her many talents such as cooking, quilting, and knitting. She was a charter member of the Red Rose Quilters Guild having made 160+ quilts for family, friends, and Disaster Relief. In 1998, her quilt, "Charming Hearts", was featured in the Quiltworks Magazine and Quilting Today Magazine published her "Amish Triangles" quilt. Effie was contacted by the Walt Disney Corporation to make a quilt for the American Pavilion, but she turned that opportunity down because in her words, "Some things are not for sale". However, she did make a brief appearance as a quilter for the Reader's Digest video, "A Musical Portrait of America the Beautiful" which came out in 1995. Her quilts won many 1st place and "Best of Show" ribbons at quilt shows and one was selected to represent the state of Pennsylvania at "The World's Fair of Quilts in Houston TX. Effie was also a prolific knitter, making sweaters, blankets, prayer shawls, and baby hats. She knitted over 1700 baby hats for new-born babies. Her hands were always busy doing something for others.

The family wishes to thank Rev Tom Weber, Pastor of the Florin Church of the Brethren, Dr. Quimby (her physician who also helped in the distribution of baby hats), the staff of the Brethren Village Terrace Crossing, Village Manor, the Courtyards, and the Hospice teams for their compassionate care throughout Effie's residence and illness.

A funeral service honoring Effie's life will be held at the Florin Church of the Brethren, 815 Bruce Avenue, Mount Joy, PA 17552 on Monday, April 1, 2024 at 11 AM. Family and friends will be received at the church before the service from 10 AM to 11 AM. Interment will follow the luncheon at West Green Tree Cemetery. If desired, a contribution in Effie's memory may be made to the

Good Samaritan Fund at Brethren Village, 3001 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA
17606 or to Hospice and Community Care, 685 Good Drive, Lancaster, PA
17604.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Florin Church of the Brethren
815 Bruce Avenue
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Funeral Service

APR 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Florin Church of the Brethren
815 Bruce Avenue
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Tribute Wall

PR

“ I was going to say that I always enjoyed being in Effie’s company, but I do remember choir practices when we children were not the most attentive. Her voice would be firm. As I recall, she rarely got to that point, as she was patient, long-suffering and very good at directing us in the way we she should do. Outside of choir, she was interested in how we were doing. She was a caring and cheerful woman. I have many fond memories of her.

Peggy Rasmussen - April 17, 2024 at 09:02 PM

CW

“ What a sweet lady ! It has been many years, but she was a joy to know. I was a former hairstylist and knew her, and her daughter - Cindy & granddaughter - Emily.
My deepest sympathy to the Family.
Hang on to the many memories 🙏❤️

Cindy Walters - March 30, 2024 at 07:32 PM

GZ

“ Sending my sympathy to Effie’s family
I grew up on a farm over the hill from their farm and her daughter Lucy was one of my long time friends .Effie transported me many times to school activities . She was a wonderful loving mother and friend to so many . My thoughts and prayers to her family. Gerri Mummau Zimmerman
Omaha Ne

Gerri. Zimmerman - March 28, 2024 at 09:40 PM

GC

“ Gloria & Andy C. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Effie Ruth Eshelman.



Gloria & Andy C. - March 28, 2024 at 12:07 PM

SC

“ I have very fond memories of visting Great Aunt Effie and Uncle Jim at their farm. I was always facinated by her beautiful quilts. My brother and I loved playing with the wooden marble run. I remember the big claw foot tub. But most of all I remember her cooking, she made the best strawberry jam I have ever tasted. She was always so welcoming. Prayers for the whole family.

Sabrina Cogdill - March 26, 2024 at 10:14 PM

ES

“ Effie was a wonderful grandmother-in-law. She was kind, generous, and loving. Her delicious cooking made holidays special, and she made sure we went home with leftovers and cookies. The craftsmanship of her quilts was impeccable. We're sad to say goodbye but happy she will reunite with James and Lucy. My condolences to everyone during this difficult time. I hope our many happy memories of time spent together bring comfort in this difficult time. -Erin

Erin Swaney - March 26, 2024 at 08:46 PM

MT

It has been a wonderful experience to have become acquainted with both Effie and Jim during our years as residents at Brethren Village. Both have enriched my life in a very special way. I know they are happy to be reunited in their special eternal home. Cindy, you have been so faithful and showed your love for your parents in a loving way. Marilyn Taylor

Marilyn Taylor - March 31, 2024 at 06:13 PM

JM

I was so sad that I was not able to attend the celebration of life service for Effie, for hers was truly a life to celebrate. Effie and Jim modeled for me what it looks like to be a true follower of Jesus. I love their whole family so much - Lucy and Dave, Peter and Robin, Cindy and Mike, Emily - and send you my deepest sympathy, hugs and love. Whenever I look at my beautiful quilt with the names of the children of Florin on it, I will think of Effie, her many talents and how she graciously used them for the glory of God and her neighbor's good. .Christ's peace and comfort to you all.

Jean Moyer - April 12

Jean Moyer - April 12, 2024 at 10:45 AM