



## Fern Arlene Ney

February 22, 1936 - June 8, 2024

Fern Arlene Ney (Nester), beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully at her home on June 8th, 2024. She was a resident of Mount Joy, PA for over 60 years.

Born on February 22, 1936, in Albany Township, Berks County, to the late Homer and Olive Nester. She grew up with her loving sisters; Shirley Rabert, Janet Albright and Sandra Schappell with whom she shared many fond memories.

Fern graduated from Kutztown State Teachers College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Art Education in July 1957. She began her career as an elementary art teacher in the Donegal School District, where she taught 1st and 2nd grades from 1957 to 1959. Her passion for education and nurturing young minds left a lasting impact on her students.

She was a devoted member of Glossbrenner United Methodist Church for over 50 years, where she taught Sunday School, Bible School and sang in the choir. Her commitment to her faith and community was evident through her various roles and her warm, welcoming spirit.

In 1959, Fern married the love of her life, Jay Rodney Ney (Pete), with whom she shared 54 beautiful years of marriage until his passing on April 10, 2013. Together, they built a loving family and created a lifetime of cherished memories.

Fern will be dearly missed by her three children: Erin, wife of Jeffrey Sacks; Cheri, wife of James Garrett; and Tracy, husband of Tammy Chalfant. She

was a proud grandmother to seven grandchildren: Steven Sacks, Kate Sacks, Dalton Garrett, Carli Garrett, Terrance Ney, Travis Ney, Jennifer Shawley and 3 great-grandchildren: Avaeh Ney, Easton Ney, and Savannah Shawley.

In addition to her roles as a devoted wife and mother, Fern was a passionate collector and seller of antiques and collectibles. She also worked part-time as a courier at Engle Printing and Publishing Co., where she made many lasting friendships.

Fern had a love for music, playing the piano and accordion, and enjoyed singing in the choir. She also loved participating in Bible study groups and car shows with her 1993 Red Cadillac Coupe Deville, winning 2009 Best of Show. She delighted in dressing up for Halloween, socializing with friends at the Centerville Diner 2 and Gus's Restaurant, as well as being a longtime member of the Joyful Ladies (Red Hatters) of Mount Joy. Her legacy of love, kindness, and devotion to family and friends will forever be cherished by all who knew her.

A memorial service to celebrate Fern's life will be held on June 15, 2024, at 11:00 am at Glossbrenner United Methodist Church, 713 Church St, Mount Joy. Friends may visit with the family at the church from 10-11 AM, with a luncheon following downstairs. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Donor Services Northeast PA, PO Box 22470, New York, NY 10087 (or call 888-557-7177) in memory of Fern Ney.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Glossbrenner United Methodist Church  
713 Church Street  
Mount Joy, PA 17552

## Funeral Service

JUN **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Glossbrenner United Methodist Church  
713 Church Street  
Mount Joy, PA 17552

# Tribute Wall

DH

“ Cheri, Erin and Tracy, your mom was one of the best! I have such great memories growing up and spending a lot of time at your house. Cheri..we were inseparable for so many years❤️ I wish all mothers were as great as yours! Also, my parents send their condolences to you all. God Bless.

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**Deana Hollister** - June 16, 2024 at 05:12 PM

MS

“ I will never forget the kindness and hospitality that Fern and Pete Ney gave to me when I moved to Lancaster County for the "weekend": and stayed with them at their home for 3-4 weeks while I looked for employment and a place to live with their daughter Cheri. They fed me, gave me a place to sleep and treated me like part of the family. I am forever grateful to them for helping me at that point in my life.

*My first job was actually thru a friend of Fern's who was one of the front desk guards at Donnelly Printing on Greenville Road. Fern introduced me to her on a walk one day and I then had an in at a good company. How could you ask for anything better than this coming to a new town with no job prospects.*

*Thank you Fern, and the entire Ney family for all you have done for me. You are the salt of the Earth and have instilled your fine values with your children and all you have encountered on your journey thru life.*

*Love - Marlene Schneider*

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**Marlene Schneider** - June 13, 2024 at 03:45 PM

DG

“ I have had the privilege of doing Fern’s hair for many years. She was a Beautiful, Sweet and Kind lady. One time we had the rare chance of being alone in the shop and she sang some of her favorite church choir songs for me. That is what I picture her doing today! I will miss your sweet visits but look forward to the day we will see each other in eternity. 🙏  
Love Dory.

Dory Geltmacher - June 12, 2024 at 07:34 AM



“ Fern was a beautiful lady, inside and out. She was so kind and gentle, but also had a great sense of humor. I grew up with Cheri, Erin and Tracy and spent a lot of time with their mom and dad. Fern loved to laugh and she always dressed up in costumes for Halloween. For one of her grandson’s proms, she dressed as a chauffeur complete with white gloves and cap and showed up in her beloved red cadillac as the driver (She even bowed and opened the car doors for them!) I know her family has a huge hole in their hearts with this loss, but she was treasured dearly during her time with them. I feel blessed to have known her and her family. She will be missed for sure, and remembered forever.

Nancy Morris - June 10, 2024 at 07:23 PM

BF

“ Cheri, so sorry to hear of your mother’s passing. She sounds like she was a terrific lady and role model.

Brenda and Mike Flory

Brenda and Mike Flory - June 10, 2024 at 04:45 PM

DC

“ Aunt Fern was a beautiful and kind aunt. Gordon and I were rather young, and she took us to our first drive-in movie, and we had shakes and cheeseburgers which is a first memory. May she rest in peace. Hugs, kisses and prayers to family and friends.

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**Donna Ney Costigan** - June 10, 2024 at 01:56 PM