



## Gail Janis Merchant

March 11, 1935 - November 14, 2025

Gail Janis Merchant, 90, formerly of Mount Joy, passed away on Friday, November 14, 2025 at Masonic Village. Born in Warren, PA, she was the daughter of the late Armour and Alice (Mason) McDonald. Gail was the wife of Richard D. "Dick" Merchant with whom she celebrated 70 years of marriage this past November 5th.

Gail was a graduate of Warren High School class of 1953. She received her nursing diploma in 1956 from Hamot Hospital in Erie. She worked at Jamestown Hospital in New York before finishing her career at Norlanco Family Health Center. Gail was a previous member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church and Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 407, Elizabethtown. Surviving in addition to her husband, Dick, are four children, Christopher Merchant, husband of Kristine of Elizabethtown, Daniel Merchant, husband of Karen of Palmyra, Vicki Haake, wife of Harlan "Buzz" of Palmyra, and Tanya Merchant of Mt. Wolfe; eleven grandchildren; many great grandchildren; a son in law, Daniel Lenz of SC; a brother, Keith McDonald of Salt Lake City, UT; three nieces; and a nephew.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Rebecca Lenz and a grandson, Jason Merchant.

A memorial service honoring Gail's life will be held at the Sheetz Funeral Home, 16 East Main Street, Mount Joy, PA 17552 on Friday, November 21, 2025 at 11 AM. Family and friends will be received at the funeral home before the service from 10 AM to 11 AM. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers,

memorial contributions may be made to St. Mark's United Methodist Church,  
37 E Main St, Mount Joy, PA 17552.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **21**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Sheetz Funeral Home  
16 East Main Street  
Mount Joy, PA

## Memorial Service

NOV **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sheetz Funeral Home  
16 East Main Street  
Mount Joy, PA

# Tribute Wall

JG

“ Our Condolences to you, Dick and the Family. We're so Sorry for your Loss! We just heard last evening about Gail's passing and were out of town today so we couldn't make it to the viewing. I was just telling Bonnie I had a memory and when I started to share it, she started laughing and said she was thinking the same thing this morning: What really stands out to us was her spending every spare minute (which she hardly ever had) crawling on the lawn digging out weeds, always a well manicured yard in Donegal Heights that looked so nice!



Jon Garber - November 21, 2025 at 07:51 PM



Thanks Jon and Bonnie.

Tanya Sue - November 22, 2025 at 11:36 PM



“ This is Rip. Gail enjoyed him very much! She will be deeply missed.



Lynn Quicquel - November 18, 2025 at 11:34 AM



*Awe, she loved Rip! Thank you so much for sharing him with my mom!*  
- Tanya

**Tanya Sue** - November 19, 2025 at 10:54 PM



“ *Over the past year I was able to start to get to know Gail and Richard with my visits thru Masonic Homes Therapy Pet Program. My German Shephard, Rip and I with my kids visited Gail several times a month. She looked forward to seeing Rip and feeding him lots of treats and I mean lots of treats! Rip loved every minute of it. She would always insist on Dick to get him a bowl of water and put it on the kitchen floor. Rip would follow him right to the kitchen to lap it all up and go right back to Gail in hopes there were more treats. Gail would just smile from ear to ear! We so enjoyed our visits with Gail and are deeply saddened about her passing. Our hearts go out to Dick, her children and all her knew and loved her.*

**Lynn Quickel** - November 18, 2025 at 11:21 AM



*This is so great to hear. I'm so glad you could be with her when we couldn't.*

**Lindsay Heller** - November 18, 2025 at 11:40 AM



*Grandma really loved dogs. Thank you for sharing Rip with her (and now, us)!*

**Connie Funk** - November 20, 2025 at 06:59 PM



“ *Condolences to Dick and the family.* - Jim Gamble

**James Gamble** - November 18, 2025 at 10:58 AM



*Thanks Jim! She cut her own hair her whole life until you came along.  
Thanks for making her look so good!*

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**Tanya Sue** - November 19, 2025 at 10:57 PM