



Margaret Mary Garber

June 19, 1926 - July 8, 2020

MARGARET M. GARBER, 94, Educator taught hundreds of children to read

Margaret Garber, who died July 8, 2020, was a first grade teacher at Maytown Elementary School for 27 years and a long-time resident of Elizabethtown, where she and husband Henry M. Garber, one of the owners of Garber Motor Company, raised three children - Kim (James) Lifton, Joan (Dennis) Hossler and Tobin (Barbara) Garber. She has five grandchildren and one great grandson. Mrs. Garber is also survived by her sister Carol Ann (Robert) Schrader.

Margaret Garber was a creative, fun grandma. Her home featured ping pong tournaments and a pool table in the basement, basketball and swimming out back, and her favorite game of UPWORDS at the kitchen table. Her experiences as an elementary school teacher made her interested in amassing a large personal library of children's books. After retirement, she volunteered as a story reader at the public library in Mount Joy and assisted with reading instruction in the Donegal School District.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, PA, Mrs. Garber was the daughter of Gilbert T. and Margaret Steever. A graduate of Elizabethtown High School, she received her college degree in Health Education at the State Teachers College at West Chester, PA. Her first job was as a physical education teacher in the

Littlestown, PA, School District and she was also trained as a Girl Scout leader. One of her favorite stories from this period was about shepherding a group of girls on a rainy canoe trip down the Susquehanna River from Bucknell to Harrisburg, which included getting out in shallow water and pulling the canoes. Later in life, she became an avid golfer.

Margaret Garber loved Hershey Park, calling it "the most magical place on earth." As a girl growing up in Elizabethtown, she would catch the trolley from Market Street and Linden Avenue to ride to Hershey to swim in the pool and slide down the water slide. Writing about those childhood summers in the Pennsylvania Heritage magazine, she remembered that on Sunday evenings, her parents would treat the family to rides on the carousel and they would watch soldiers from Fort Indiantown Gap try their luck at the shooting gallery. In her last years, she particularly enjoyed watching the Kissing Tower go up and down.

Mrs. Garber was skilled in making large handmade braided rugs, knitting patterned sweaters and she crocheted an heirloom christening gown. She pursued an interest in genealogy that enabled her to trace her family back to the Revolutionary War. She also connected with, and traveled to see, distant relatives living in Wales.

For her church, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in E-town, Mrs. Garber scheduled volunteer readers and helped to count the offering. In public service-related activities, she accompanied husband Henry, a delegate, to the 1992 Republican National Convention in Houston and later became a judge of elections in Elizabethtown Borough.

Margaret Garber will be remembered fondly by family, friends and caregivers at St. Anne's Retirement Community for her baseball caps, connoisseurship of peanut butter crackers and chocolate ice cream, and her cheerful "merci

beaucoup!" Rest in peace, Margaret, we love you!

Services will be private. Memorial contributions may be made to her church, Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 125 East High Street, Elizabethtown, PA.

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Although I never met Margaret, I've heard wonderful stories about her from Clarissa Wolcott. Both were members of Witness Tree DAR in Columbia. Margaret had been a Daughter of the American Revolution since April 15, 2000. God Bless Her.

Suzanne Whallon, Regent of Witness Tree DAR - July 22, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ The Hossler family members offer our sincere condolences to the Garber family. Although we all did not know Margaret personally, we do have memories of her through various aspects of her life in the Elizabethtown community, in which she played an influential role. Our family cars were purchased over the years from the Garber Motor Company as Gerald and Martha trusted the Garbers and their integrity as owners. Margaret and Henry's commitment to community service provided the opportunity for Gerald and Martha to further connect with Margaret in local Republican party activities. Lois met and appreciated Margaret's commitment to helping educate children as a Senior Citizen Volunteer at Rheems Elementary School. And, we all knew of Margaret as the mother of Joan, whose character and personality drew Dennis and Joan together as close friends in high school and now in their life together. Though our contact with Margaret was limited, it is obvious she lived a life that touched the lives and well-being of many others in many ways. Our hopes are your memories will carry you through the upcoming days and years. The Hossler Family - Martha Hossler, Donna and Stan Lavender, Lois and Chuck Brewer, and Barry and Jan Hossler.

The Hossler Family - July 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Our mother, Margaret Garber, had a gift for teaching children. She was a long-time first grade teacher at Maytown Elementary School and continued to help out in the classroom after retirement. Her passion for teaching children how to read was shown by her large personal collection of picture books and chapter books and by her helping out with story hour at the public library. She was hospitable - known in later years for "Margaret's Famous 3rd of July Pool Parties," which would gather family and friends for a swim and a few games of Scrabble or Upwords. On one hot day, she was even known to have taken a running start and jumped into the pool with her clothes on. It was great to see the local Garber relatives for these parties. Thank you for visiting these pages and for your cards and messages to us. We appreciate the kindness that surrounds us. It helps. May God bless all.

Kim Garber - July 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM