



## Mary H. Sheetz

September 28, 1927 - August 26, 2018

Mary Helen Reich Sheetz of Mount Joy, beloved mother, grandmother, wife, business owner, civic leader and dedicated volunteer passed away peacefully on August 26th, 2018. Affectionately known as "Nan" she was a spry 90 years young and anticipated the coming of her 91st birthday in September.

Born September 28, 1927, Mary grew up in Marietta, the only daughter of the late Jay M. and Mary Helen O'Brien Reich. Her five older brothers adored her, Joe, John, Ed, George and her surviving brother Jay Reich, married to Barbara of Marietta. A child of the Great Depression, her family lost everything they owned. Poverty forced the Reich family to leave their home in Marietta and move to a family-owned estate known as The Brook Farm (circa 1742), located in the Stackstown section of East Donegal Township. The farm had no running water, electricity or phone. Mary grew up making her clothing and padding her worn out shoes with paper bags and cardboard. Many times, she described this part of her life as the "best of times", as the family became so close, mutually reliant, and faith-filled. Her family openly shared what little they had with others. Mary learned the value of the dollar and that hard work would be her life partner. From this experience, she made it her mission to pass those virtues on to her children, including the love of family and respect for others.

Mary was a proud graduate of the East Donegal Township High School, class

of 1945. Before meeting her husband, (Gerald R. Sheetz, d. 2006) she was employed by the former Wyeth Laboratories. After her marriage, Mary embarked on a life journey to serve the public and those in a time of need. In 1954, she and her husband established the Sheetz Funeral Home in Mount Joy and remained on staff as "The Boss" until her death. During her life, she was a dedicated member of Mary Mother of the Church Parish, serving on Parish Council, the National of Council Catholic Women, and the Altar and Rosary Society. Her civic life was fulfilled by her development of the Mount Joy Meals on Wheels, serving as its president for many years. She led the Business and Professional Women of Mount Joy as president for two years; and many other civic activities. Her legacy proudly lives on through her children and grandchildren.

Mary's daily presence, phone calls, and texts will be deeply missed by her children: Dr. Jessica A. Sheetz-Nguyen, married to Kenneth M. Nguyen of Oklahoma City; Judith A. married to Benjamin W. Piersol, Jr., of Helena, MT; Mary S. married to Mark E. Lynam, Mount Joy; and Jonathan R., married to Donna M. McNamara Sheetz, Mount Joy; and Christopher J. Sheetz companion of Tina Slabonik, Harrisburg. She was adored by her grandchildren: Rebecca married to Jack Connors, Benjamin W. Piersol, III, Andrew Lynam, Ian married to Grace Obando Lynam and Mary E. Lynam, and Peter, Stephen, and James Sheetz. She is joined in heaven with her granddaughter Rachel Piersol who preceded her in death in 1987.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Mary Mother of the Church Parish, 625 Union School Road, Mount Joy PA on Saturday, September 1, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. with the Reverend Father Pang S. Tcheou as Celebrant. Mary will be interred beside her husband in the Mount Joy Cemetery during a private family service. At the request of "The Boss" there will be no public viewing. Her family will greet friends immediately after Mass. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to one of the following would be appreciated: Mary

Mother of the Church, 625 Union School Road, Mount Joy, 17552; Mount Joy Helping Services c/o St. Mark's UM Church, 37 East Main St., Mount Joy, PA, 17552; S. June Smith Center, 1801 Roherstown Road, Lancaster, PA, 17601.

# Tribute Wall

RR

“ I will always remember Mary for her bright smile and fun sense of humor. So sad to hear of her passing.

Rose Ryan - September 20, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Jacquie, Thank you very much for your note of sympathy. It is much appreciated. Jessica

Jessica - September 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Jacquie, Thank you for your expression of sympathy. It is much appreciated. Jessica

Jessica - September 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Thank you very much Stephanie and Harvey. None of us are strangers to the sad passing of family members. Jessica

Jessica - September 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I just saw this today! As a very old friend of the entire Sheetz family and especially Jerry and Dick who were to me the brothers I never had, I am so very sorry for your loss. Mary was a very special lady and adored by everyone. God Bless her soul and God Bless the entire family. My sincere love to all.

Jacquie Hendrix Berger - September 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ to The entire family. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. Your Mom was a great woman and always filled with caring and compassion. What a wonderful addition to heaven!

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**Julie Blome** - September 03, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Everyone, Thank you so much for your kind words. I hope I can keep in touch with Thelma. She was so helpful to us. Jessica, Judy, Mary, Jon, and Chris.

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**jessica** - September 03, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JZ

“ We were saddened to hear of your loss. We will always remember your Mother's beautiful smile and her warm personality. All of you have been in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Jim and Marlene Zuch** - September 02, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ My sympathies are with your whole family today. Wishing peace & strength upon you all.

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**Emily Rankin** - September 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Bruce & Rachel KlineOur sincerest sympathies to the Sheetz family on the recent loss of your mother, Mary. What wonderful hospitality your folks extended to us when we resided in Mifflin county. Just remember all the wonderful memories you have. God bless you all and keep strong!

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**Bruce & Rachel** - September 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ *John: My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May God's love surround you and give you peace.*

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**Evie Balmer** - September 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *Dear Jon, Donna, Peter, Steven & James, With great sadness for your loss we want to send you our condolences. We want you to know that you are in our thoughts & prayers. We are forever thankful to have you in our lives. Love, oooxxxCookiemom, Poppy & Willie*

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**Tom, Jane & Willie Burger** - September 01, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Dear Bob, Barbara, and Andrew Boehme... Thank you for the most beautiful expression of sympathy for the shared loss of our mother and your lifelong friend. Jessica*

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**Jessica A. Sheetz-Nguyen** - August 31, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A Designers Choice Standing Spray was ordered on August 31, 2018*

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**Expression of Sympathy** - August 31, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *John sorry to hear of the loss of your mother prayers for you and your family*

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**Michael Coffroad** - August 31, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ *To: MARYS 'FAMILY. WOW~IN THE MIRROR REFLECTS MOM. HER CHILDREN DO THE SAME. KIND AND CARING! WITH LOVE&SYMPATHY~BOB HIGHS' FAMILY*

Cheri High - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A Designers Choice Vase Arrangement was ordered on August 30, 2018*

Expression of Sympathy - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ *Ben and Judy, Sincere sympathy on the loss of your mother (in-law). Take care and cherish your memories.*

Bob and Pat White - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ *I am saddened to learn of Mary's passing. May you find comfort and healing knowing that Mary touched so many lives in her personal life, and in the many years of service to the community assisting Jerry and Jonathan in funeral service.*

Fred Didyoung - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *Your Mother was a very special person. We always had a great time sharing with each other. She will be missed. Remember all the memories.*

Lillian & Jim Zimmerman The Country Store - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *What a great lady! Her smile and kindness was incredible. She was at every service for our deceased loved ones going back to 1969. She will be missed. Sincere sympathy to the family.*

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**Donna Ney Costigam** - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ *Please accept our sympathy. Rose Gibble, Jean Hamilton, Donald Musser*

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**Rose Gibble** - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Sorry that I didn't take the time in April, 2018 when in Mount Joy for my 65th Mount Joy H.S. reunion to stop by. You'll Remember me, lived across the street when you and Jerry live on West Donegal St. Oh, how fast the years go by. GO BUY but not forever. See you again sometime in the future. It's Jim Metzler Jacksonville,FL*

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**James Metzler** - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ *Thoughts and prayers for your family...Mary certainly be missed by many. So happy to have known her for many years..She was such a kind soul, I will miss her smile...*

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**Danielle and Tim Pfautz** - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A Designers Choice Vase Arrangement was sent by Stephanie and Harvey Schademan on August 30, 2018*

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**Expression of Sympathy** - August 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A Dish Garden with fresh flowers was sent by RAM Industrial Services on August 29, 2018

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**Expression of Sympathy** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Dan and Josie Calnan We wish to extend our sympathy to your entire family. Mary will be remembered as a kind and special woman who was always welcoming and informative to all who came in contact with her. I will miss my Thursday morning visits with her. She brightened my day.

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**Josie Calnan** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ What a great life she had! What a great lady! Her Legacy lives on in her children and grandchildren. We are blessed to have known her. We share your sorrow and send heartfelt hugs to each of you! Many blessings and much love The Lombards and Waltzes, Rob, Nancy, Connie, Barry, Jeff, Susan, Mark, Meredith

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**Meredith** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ My sincere condolences to you all. May she rest in the arm's of our Heavenly Father

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**Martha** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ I am do sorry for your loss.

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**Diane and Shawn Flanagan** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A Designers Choice Vase Arrangement was sent on August 29, 2018 We are sorry for your loss, and send our love and heartfelt condolences. We hope you find comfort in spending time and sharing memories with dear friends and family. Love, Brandy, Merrick, Lighty, Alan, Cas, Luke (Bmore Fam)

Expression of Sympathy - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A Designers Choice Vase Arrangement was sent on August 29, 2018 We are sorry for your loss, and send our love and heartfelt condolences. We hope you find comfort in spending time and sharing memories with dear friends and family. Love, Emily, Chris, Jeff, Natalee, Trevor, Cree (Bmore Fam)

Expression of Sympathy - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to the whole Sheetz family. Due to a conflict we will not be able to attend her funeral Mass on Saturday, but know that all of you will be in our thoughts and prayers. Mary was one classy lady, and know that she will be missed by all those she touched in some way.

Marnie & Steve Bowers - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dearest Jessica - you and your family are in my thoughts and heart. Please know this, and know I am here if you need to talk. You were there for me when my mother passed 4 years ago...

Brenda Simpson - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A Designers Choice Standing Spray was ordered on August 29, 2018*

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**Expression of Sympathy** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Your mother was a dear friend of my mother Nellie E. Blake. They will finally be together again.*

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**David Blake** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *We want to send your family our sincere sympathy, love, and prayers at this time of great loss! Your mom was a sweet, compassionate, and joyful woman! We always enjoyed spending time with her at the annual family reunion! She will be greatly missed! May God comfort you with many wonderful memories of your mom and grandmother to sustain you in the future!*

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**Bob and Brenda Martin and family** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ *Our sympathy to the Sheetz family. Your mother was a great person to be around. She had a ready smile and was one busy lady. I'm sure she will be missed greatly by the whole family.*

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**Theresa & Ken Newcomer** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *Your Mother was friends with my Mother at Masonic Homes. I have spoken with your Mom a few times while visiting. She was such a wonderful woman who was so proud of her life and family. She brought so much joy to my Mom and friends, thank you!*

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**Maureen Gamber** - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Regina, Thank you so much for remembering us. I am deeply moved. Jessica

Jessica - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Brenda, Thank you so very much for your kind words. I look forward to going to lunch again and talking. Jessica

Jessica - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Thank you Dan and Josie, I am grateful for the kindnesses you showed my mother. Sincerely, Jessica

Jessica - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Meredith and all of the Lombard Family, Thank you so much for your sympathy. It is deeply appreciated. Jessica

Jessica - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Thank you, Maureen. Jessica

Jessica - August 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Thinking of you all at this sad time. May all of your memories of Mary stay with you forever! Love, John and Katie

katie - August 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. I didn't know her, but heard a lot about her. You all loved her very much and took such good care of her. Prayers for your family during this time.

Regina Miller - August 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. You all will be in my thoughts.

Bridgette Lee - August 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ My deepest sympathy and prayers to the Sheetz family on the loss of this kind, loving and compassionate woman, who comforted many others also dealing with loss, was a leader in the community and a blessing to know. May God surround all of you with His love, comfort and peace. God bless you.

Sandy Heisey - August 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KY

“ Dr. JSN.I am so sorry our your family's loss, may your mother's soul rest in peace with God.

Your student

Kevin Yang

Kevin Yang - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Angela Wolf - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *my condolences. your mother was a great lady. she will be sorely missed. all my love and prayers to all. christine beck*

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**christine beck** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *We only new Mary a short time but she has left a lasting impression on our family. My mother will miss her dearly. We could not have asked for a better person for our mother to share her days and nights with for the last year. We send our love and support during this difficult time.*

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**Thelma, Jennifer (Yohe), Bob and Felicia, Laura (Maldonado) Aubel and family** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ *Such a sweet lady! my thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

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**Laura Tressler** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

VR

“ To all of you kids, I just cannot believe Mary is gone. I am so sorry for your loss and the loss that everyone else will feel when they do not see that beautiful smile of hers anymore here on this earth. I feel so privileged to have known her since I was a little girl whose Grandmother phone sat and babysat for your Mom and Dad back on East Donegal Street.. I would come and stay with my Grandmother, you all knew her as, Aunt Alice, for weeks in the summer when she lived in the apartment above the garage next to the old funeral home. We kids played together and your Mom was so very good to me and welcomed me always, even as I got older. Your Dad and mine were in the Marine Corp together so our families were quite intertwined. I will miss Mary so much and hopefully will be able to attend a service for her if possible. I am having health issues at this time as I am not that little girl anymore.. It has been 60 years since those happy days, but I remember them as if it were yesterday.

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**Vicki Garber Radle** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ We loved your mother so much and have been missing her terribly as our neighbor. She was the best neighbor anyone could have ever had just as your father was as well. We'll never forget your kind and loving parents.Sandy and Dave

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**Sandy and Dave Christian** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *An All white Design was sent on August 27, 2018 May the constant love of caring friends soften your sadness; may cherished memories bring you moments of comfort; may the peace of God surround your hearts.*

*Love,  
Kala, Eli, Kate, and Adam*

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**Expression of Sympathy** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A Designers Choice Vase Arrangement was sent on August 27, 2018 With our love and deepest, heartfelt sympathy.*

*Bob, Barbara, and Andrew Boehme*

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**Expression of Sympathy** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KN

“ *Your mother was a wonderful person. She shared her smile and kindness with everyone she met. We enjoyed seeing her at her grandchildrens games. We will miss her.*

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**Karen and Wes Nauman** - August 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM