



Nancy Blecharz

May 10, 1932 - January 2, 2020

Nancy Blecharz, 87, of Ross Township, died suddenly at home on Thursday January 2, 2020. Born May 9, 1932 in Pittsburgh, she was the younger twin daughter of Virgil and Nancy (Wightman) Bears, he of Denver, Colorado and she of Pittsburgh.

Nancy was a proud member of Hampton High School's Class of 1950. She went on to study at the Pittsburgh Music Institute with a focus on piano performance, then worked as a church organist, choir director, and private piano teacher. In 1960 she was hired by the H.J. Heinz Company and worked as an executive secretary until the birth of her second daughter in 1968. After working at home for 13 years, she was hired by Burke & Michael Inc. and then by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, where she worked for 17 years in several capacities before serving and eventually retiring as secretary to the Chairman, Department of Medicine. Nancy loved to work and was a valued colleague. She was diligent and industrious and developed enduring friendships in each of her job settings.

Unfailingly cheerful, Nancy was a joy to be with. She was a ceaseless source of delight at church, work, Red Hat gatherings, or monthly high-school reunions. She was a pianist, a Sudoku and solitaire fan, and an avid consumer of news. Nancy spent decades of happy summers on Chautauqua Lake, NY and loved to introduce new friends to the small gem of a cottage she

shared with her husband, Stan. She was often found in Pittsburgh-area restaurants at lunchtime, enjoying gluten-free food and the company of friends. She loved baked potatoes, mashed potatoes, baseball and football; she loved wine, butter, and talk radio. Faithful and brave during the long years of her husband's illness, Nancy was his companion at home, in treatment rooms, through doctor's appointments and hospital stays. She was amiable, generous, and content in all things. She was deeply loved by her husband, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And she eagerly anticipated the life to come, her "new address," where she would be made fully alive, when this life ended.

Nancy was preceded in death by her brothers Robert and Everett, and by her loving husband Stan, who passed away in February 2019; they were married for 53 years. She is survived by loving daughters Holly (Kevin) Carr & Kathy (Eric) Emmons; twin sister Dorris Donald Eannarino; brother-in-law William (Judith) Blecharz; grandchildren Janell Carr, Bethany (Matthew) Sytsema, Meg (Josh) Van Dyke, Andrew (Nicole) Carr, Anna & Katelyn Rose Emmons; great-grandchildren Diandre Carr, Eden, Cade & Quinn Sytsema, Julianna & Madelyn Van Dyke, Addison Carr; and nieces Susan Steffy and Ruth Rudolph, as well as nephews Richard Blecharz, Robert Donald, Daniel Donald, Scott Donald, and Jim Donald.

Friends received Wednesday, January 8, 2020 from 2-4pm & 7-9pm at Simons Funeral Home, Inc., 7720 Perry Highway 15237 (www.simonsfuneralhome.com). A funeral service to the glory of God will be held on Thursday, January 9, 10am, at Memorial Park Presbyterian Church, 8800 Peebles Road. Contributions may be made in her memory to Memorial Park Church, Youth Fund (8800 Peebles Road, Allison Park PA 15101).

Cemetery Details

Sewickley Cemetery

Broad St.
Sewickley, PA 15143

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.
7720 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Visitation

JAN 8. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Simons Funeral Home, Inc.
7720 Perry Highway
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Church Service

JAN 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Memorial Park Presbyterian Church
8800 Peebles Road
Allison Park, PA 15101

Tribute Wall

SL

“ Nancy was a wonderful person I had the privilege of knowing through our membership at Memorial Park Church and Red Hat Queen. She was so sweet and had a wonderful laugh, always an upbeat person

Shirley Loehr-Forney - May 21, 2020 at 11:36 AM

CM

“ I only had the privilege of meeting your beloved Mother once while visiting my Aunt Margaret and Uncle Shaner, but she was definitely someone you did not forget. My Aunt Margaret was very smitten with her hopeful future daughter-in-law (at the time) and I often heard how very talented she was. As a cousin, you are in my thoughts and in my heart.

Carol McIlwain - January 05, 2020 at 12:57 PM

DO

“ Nancy has been a treasured friend since our days in the Heinz Research Center where we worked as secretaries. Shortly after our retirements, we embarked upon our aerobic exercise career taking classes at Memorial Park Church on Friday mornings. This class was followed by breakfast at Bob Evans where we recruited Joyce OHare (another Heinz graduate) to join us for breakfast, not aerobics. We enlisted Elaine New to join us at her retirement from UPMC, where she worked with Nancy. The four of us have been breakfasting there for more years than I can count. Nancy will be sorely missed. Our discussions, sometimes political in nature, on occasion caused other patrons to relocate their tables. Nancy was the bravest person I have ever known. She dealt with adversity and always maintained upbeat in spite of difficulty. We love you, Nanni.

Diane Otto - January 04, 2020 at 07:09 PM