



Claire Marion Barnum

January 1, 2026

Claire Marion Barnum, 92, of Calvary Homes, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on January 1, 2026, at Trillium Place where she recently moved. Born in Philadelphia, PA, she was the daughter of the late Howard S. and Anne Swope Hight.

After graduating from Darby High School, she attended Franklin School of Science and Arts in Philadelphia. For the next 37 years she worked as a medical secretary in a couple medical offices as well as at Delaware County Memorial Hospital.

In 1984, she married George L. Barnum. They shared 32 happy years together before his passing in 2016. Prior to his death, they enjoyed taking many trips. She loved to read and walk. Volunteering at Calvary Homes, where she and George moved to in 2001, was something she enjoyed doing, especially in earlier years there.

Until her marriage she was a member at Colwyn Baptist Church, then became a member at Aldan Union Church until she and George moved to Lancaster. Currently she was a member at Calvary Church where she belonged to the Friendship ABF.

She is survived by nieces & nephews who say “she was the best and most fun

Auntie ever!" Claire was preceded in death by two brothers, H. Leigh Hight and Robert D. Hight.

Per her wish of no formal service, Claire will be celebrated at a Graveside Service at Mellinger Mennonite Cemetery on Friday, January 16, 2026 at 2:00pm. Pastor Jonathan Yoder will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Claire's memory may be sent to the Calvary Homes Benevolent Fund, 502 Elizabeth Drive Lancaster, PA 17601.

Cemetery Details

Mellinger Mennonite Cemetery

Lincoln Hwy East
Greenfield Road
Lancaster, PA

Previous Events

Graveside

JAN 16. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mellinger Mennonite Cemetery
Lincoln Hwy East
Greenfield Road
Lancaster, PA

Tribute Wall

KS

“ Claire was a lady with a welcoming smile. Enjoyed being with her and George on many occasions, I delivered flowers to her for special times. She joined a few other widows for a brunch at my apartment. We had fun and Claire told us more than once that she is a Baptist. Will look for her when I too go home to be with the Lord.

Kathy Scott - January 18 at 09:58 AM

JW

“ Claire was both the leader of our CBC Youth Group and a member. She was fun and mischievous (with a twinkle in her eye), kind, thoughtful and a friend who devoted her valuable time to helping us grow up. She took on the likes of David T. and Larry S. and their antics and didn't bat an eye! She treated us as individuals and was tolerant of our foibles. She took me to Camp of the Woods in NY for a weekend when I was in college. I adopted her as "Mom II" upon the death of her mother. We went to Mother and Daughter Banquets together. Upon my marriage she dropped to "Mom III." We stayed in touch thru the years, remembering Birthdays, meeting at Restaurants, Emailing, sending cards, etc. We were happy she found George, after helping to raise us, and he too joined us for lunches. The last time we were able to see her was her 90th Birthday, two years ago. We will miss her and are grateful for her caring spirit.

Judy Walker

Judith Walker - January 14 at 08:33 PM

JW

“ Claire ... You were always there. Thank you.
Jim Walker

Jim Walker - January 14 at 08:13 PM

AB

“ Our Auntie Claire was a very special lady. She was our “cool” aunt and was always the best aunt ever to us. She loved us and made sure that we didn’t forget that. She was the adult that would hang out with us and let us know she enjoyed doing it. Auntie Claire was always the first birthday card we would get in the mail every year (even as adults). She introduced us to the movie theater and would take us to see special, fun movies. She would take vacation time and come with us to the beach or just take time to visit us at our home on holidays. When she visited us over New Year’s eve when we were young, she would keep us up until midnight and take us to the church to ring the bell at midnight! What fun that was! On beach visits she would take us to the board walk to ride a “bicycle built for two”, and then we would stop for a special meal of Taylor Pork Roll and Birch beer. It was always fun when she was with us. She was a jokester (especially with her brothers) and she loved to laugh. She also had a deep love for Jesus and her eyes would shine when she was sharing about her walk with her Lord and Savior. Because of this, she wasn’t afraid of death. She knew that when the time came, she would be with Him in heaven ... and she is. We love you, Auntie Claire and you will be missed.
Her Nieces & Nephews (Paul, Cathie, Anne & Leigh)

Anne R. Bartuska - January 12 at 09:25 AM

FW

“ Hello! My name is Fred Wickis. I have known Claire my whole life. My mother and Claire were good friends when I was in the Crib Nursery, so I’m told, at Colwyn Baptist through college. Consequently, Claire was a lifelong close friend! She was a friend through many good times ! We stayed in touch after college. She was one of the kindest women I ever knew! Always wiling to listen and eternally good natured! A key person in my development. Absent from the body is at home with the Lord! I wish everybody could have a friend like Claire. I will always be grateful!!!

Fred Wickis - January 09 at 07:10 PM