



Isabelle "Issy" Gilbert Thayer

January 19, 2025

Isabelle (Issy) Gilbert Thayer passed away quietly on Sunday, January 19, 2025, at the fine old age of 95. She was born in Pittsburgh, PA, and was the daughter of the late John (Jack) Russell Gilbert and Katherine Isabelle Seitz Gilbert. Issy had a long career as a hospital nurse, tending to thousands of sick folks needing a warm smile along with their care.

She spent her elementary school years in Mt. Pleasant, PA, and her high school years in Connellsville, PA, where she graduated from Connellsville High School in 1947. She attended the Presbyterian Hospital Nursing School in Pittsburgh, graduating in 1950. In 1951, she married Warren P. Thayer, Jr. and moved to Lafayette, IN where they reared a family of four children.

In 1980, she and Warren divorced. After retiring from Home Hospital in Lafayette in 1994, she moved first to Petaluma, CA, then back to Lafayette, then to Plymouth, IN, and finally to Lancaster, PA, to live with or near each of her four children. Always a sociable and involved person, Isabelle spent her final years at Homestead Village in Lancaster, where she had many good friends.

Isabelle was an inspired gardener, an enthusiastic cook, and loved reading Agatha Christie novels. In each place she lived, she found a church home where she was an active member and dependable volunteer.

She is survived by her four children, Warren Perry Thayer III, Joanna Lynne Thayer, John Gilbert Thayer, and Rebecca Jean Thayer Rettig. She had 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and her sister, Jonetta Williams.

Isabelle was preceded in death by her two sisters, Lucille Mahoney and Margery King.

A Memorial Service will be held at Hamilton Park UCC, 1210 Maple Avenue, Lancaster on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations either to the Water Street Mission (www.wsm.org/make-an-impact/give-now/) or Heifer International (www.heifer.org).

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Hamilton Park United Church of Christ
1210 Maple Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17602

Tribute Wall

LH

“ *Isabelle was one of the first residents at Homestead Village that welcomed me as a new receptionist and stopped by every Friday night to say hello. She called me "The Friday night gal." I loved her spirit and her smile!!*

Lisa Horst - January 24, 2025 at 04:56 PM

TP

“ *Isabell, Lynne and Terry miss you and your family. We spent a lot of time in Sunday School together.*

Terry L. Phillips - January 24, 2025 at 07:39 AM