



Nancy L. Martin

September 16, 2019

Nancy L. Martin, Nurse Educator

Nancy L. Martin, 78, of Lancaster, died Monday, September 16, 2019 at her home. She retired in 2007 after serving as former executive director of No Longer Alone Ministries, Lancaster, PA. As faculty, she taught nursing at West Virginia University, York College of PA and the Nazareth School of Nursing, Nazareth, Israel. She was certified as a clinical specialist in medical-surgical nursing.

A 1963 graduate of Goshen College, Goshen, IN, she received her master's degree in nursing from West Virginia University in 1981. She earned her doctorate in Administration of Higher Education in 1987 from West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

She was married to Robert W. Martin, MD for fifty-six years – married in 1963. They have lived in Lancaster and York since returning from Israel.

Nancy, with her husband, spent most of their careers as medical missionaries with the former Mennonite Board of Missions of Elkhart, IN, now known as Mennonite Mission Network, in Nazareth, Israel. She had the privilege, with the help of local colleagues, of starting a school of nursing for registered nurses among the Arab Israelis of Galilee, which continues as the Nazareth

School of nursing, seeing it accredited by Israel's Ministry of Health during her tenure. She served as director of nursing education there from 1987 to 1995.

Nancy served on many boards of nonprofits in this country and Israel. Currently she worked for some of these non-profits as a volunteer

She was a member of East Chestnut St. Mennonite Church, Lancaster, where she served in various ministries. Her focus in life was to promote health and faith.

Born in York, PA, she was the daughter of the late James S. and Alma M. (Groff) Rudy. She had pleasure in doing family genealogy and writing of the family histories.

She is survived by her husband and two children, R. Craig Martin, MD, married to Carol Ann (Call) Martin of Georgetown, KY and Karen L. Gish, of Wrightsville, PA and five grandchildren: Zachary S. Gish, married to Alexandra (Poff) of Pittsburg, PA, Madelyn L., married to Macson McGuigan of Harrisonburg, VA, Charles G. Gish of Wrightsville, PA, John R. Martin of Barboursville, WV, and Samuel T. Martin of West Point, NY. Also surviving are her brothers: John H. Rudy and his wife, Lucy Gehman of Lancaster, Clarence E. Rudy of Lititz and a sister-in-law, Eva M. Stetter Rudy of Thomas, WV. Also surviving is her sister, Sarah E. Sauder of New Holland, PA. She was predeceased by her sister, Mary Jane Detweiler and her husband, Richard C. Detweiler of Lansdale, PA, as well as her brother, J. Paul Rudy of Thomas, WV.

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life Memorial Service on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at 3:00 P.M. at Neffsville Mennonite Church, 2371 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA. The family will receive friends following the service. Those who wish to pay their respects prior to the service, the family will be

available from 2-2:30 P.M. The burial will be private at Garbers Mennonite Cemetery. Following the memorial service, everyone is invited to a Dinner in the fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be given to the Nancy Martin Memorial Scholarship fund for scholarships at the Nazareth Hospital School of Nursing, Nazareth, Israel via the Nazareth Project Inc., 237 North Prince Street, Ste. 305, Lancaster, PA 17603, or on line at www.nazarethproject.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 5. 3:00 PM (ET)

Neffsville Mennonite Church
2371 Lititz Pike
Lancaster, PA 17601

Tribute Wall



“ *Nancy L. Martin*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *I'm sorry to find out about Nancy's passing. My sympathies to Bob and Craig and Karen. It was good to be able to catch up with Bob & Nancy at the MWC Harrisonburg event a few years back.*

Thomas Lapp - July 21, 2020 at 08:14 AM



“ *Irene Murray purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Nancy L. Martin.*



Irene Murray - October 04, 2019 at 09:50 AM



“ *Bob, Please know how deeply we feel your loss. Even though we haven't seen each other in some time, we sense a special affection for you and of course for Nancy. May the God of all comfort grant you grace and mercy during these times.*
Andy and Jean Hawkins



Andrew Hawkins - October 01, 2019 at 09:42 PM

JS

My 1st memory goes back to 1951 when my Uncle Ben married her older sister, Sarah, at their York County home. Years later we connected as both our husbands were physicians and together we formed a support group for regional MMA folks. In recent years we exchanged our historical discoveries and I loved her gentle wisdom, warmth, and her peacebuilding efforts. Glad to be at the memorial service and sit by all 7 of my Hess cousins. - Joanne Hess Siegrist

Joanne Hess Siegrist - October 06, 2019 at 03:18 AM

HP

“ We were deeply saddened to learn of Nancy’s passing. How can it be? As we all try to adjust to this new reality, we share our sympathy and love with you, Bob, and your family. What memories we have from our interactions with you while you were in Nazareth and I was involved with the Nazareth Project (1992-1997). When traveling to Israel, I always enjoyed the meaningful meetings and interactions with both of you. How rich those times were! Your warm hospitality was generous and unforgettable! It felt so welcoming for you, Bob, to meet me at the Ben Gurion airport when you could. And I especially enjoyed those delicious and nutritious bowls of soup that Nancy so thoughtfully prepared in anticipation of my arrival at the Nazareth Hospital following long overnight airline flights. What wonderful times we had biking together from Nazareth to Jerusalem on that "this is what 50 looks like" fundraiser as well as dealing with that episode of the lost parking ticket at the Philadelphia airport! (I'm still looking for it!) We wish we could join you during Nancy's memorial service; regrettably, we'll be in Guatemala attending my niece's wedding that day. Love and best wishes.--H.A. and Barb Penner

H.A. Penner - October 01, 2019 at 09:09 AM

PM

“ *Bob, I was so sorry to hear of Nancy’s death. I have always appreciated seeing you both at church gatherings. I remember Nancy’s wonderful leadership of MNA, and then her strong support and mentoring of me. I always appreciated her kind and wise words.*

Blessings to you as you face this major transition in your life – I know you will miss her greatly, but I hope you will feel loved and supported through friends and loved ones. I wish I could be with you for the service but I will be starting a new job, so you will be in my thoughts and prayers. Phyllis J. Miller

Phyllis J Miller - September 29, 2019 at 05:51 PM

HN

“ *Thank you Bob and Nancy for the delightful years of friendship and camaraderie we shared while in Nazareth. I have very fond memories and great esteem for Nancy and wish Bob fortitude, love and perseverance for his great loss. My very heartfelt condolences to Bob and family. Hanna J.abu-Nassar M.D.(Houston, Texas)*

Hanna Abu Nassar - September 25, 2019 at 01:30 PM

RM

Hanna, it is really so good to hear from you! Such good memories of friendship and life shared in Nazareth many years ago.

Robert Martin - September 27, 2019 at 09:53 PM

PS

“ Sorry to hear of your loss, Bob. Have some great memories of your visit to Asheville Mennonite, and your and Nancy’s hospitality when we stayed with you. Did not know that Richard Detweiler’s wife and Nancy were related. He was principal the year I attended Christopher Dock Mennonite High School. Keeping your family in prayer.



Pat and Henry Schosser - September 24, 2019 at 07:52 PM

SS

“ We are deeply sorry to learn of Nancy’s passing and send our sympathy and love to Bob and the family!
Nancy was always a special participant and encourager for Mennonite Nurses and Mennonite Medical Associations. Then she was very instrumental in transitioning to Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship. We treasure her sharing her great knowledge and vision for the future.
With love and deep sympathy,
Sam and Jan Suter Showalter

Sam and Jan Suter Showalter - September 21, 2019 at 03:47 PM

NY

“ Dear Bob,

Our sympathy to you and your family during this time of mourning the passing of Nancy while remembering her wonderful life of love, faith, and service. Nancy touched us through her caring leadership at No Longer Alone Ministries and Bridge of Hope. She will be remembered as a wise, genuine, faithful woman and servant. Thank-you for the beautiful obituary which captured the ways she touched lives in so many ways. What a loving soul. With care,
Nelson & Pat Yoder

Nelson & Pat Yoder - September 20, 2019 at 03:28 PM

NL

“ Dear Bob and family,

I am profoundly sad to hear of Nancy's passing. The world has lost a truly great soul - one who served so many and was an excellent wife, mother and grandmother. I remember so well meeting the two of you in Nazareth, for the first time in 1995, on the fund raising bicycle trip for the Nazareth Hospital. Since that time Cheryl and I have appreciated your friendship and wisdom. As you reflect on Nancy's "LIFE WELL LIVED" may this bring some comfort during this overwhelmingly sad time. You have been and will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.
Nelson and Cheryl Lehman

Nelson Lehman - September 19, 2019 at 08:16 PM



“ Sweet Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Nancy L. Martin.



September 18, 2019 at 12:45 PM