



SARAH SMITH SHEFFEY

August 7, 2011

Sarah Cook Smith Sheffey, age 97, of Lancaster, PA, and formerly of Towanda, PA, died August 7, 2011 at The Glen at Willow Valley. Born in Connellsville, PA on December 22, 1913, Sally was the daughter of the late Bela Buck and Sallie Cook Smith. She was the wife of the late Edwin Garman Sheffey, who died in 1986.

A lifelong learner, Sally was a 1931 graduate of Connellsville High School, and a 1935 graduate of Swarthmore College. With a heart for youth, she taught English and Latin at Towanda Valley High School, operated a preschool in her home, and also served as a Probation Officer for Women and Juveniles in Bradford County. A loyal member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sally was a descendant of Col. Edward Cook, a 1775 delegate to the Provincial Conference, as well as a Westmoreland County delegate at the 1776 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

Known for her keen intellect, quick wit, and many kindnesses, Sally served as a Trustee of Towanda Public Library, volunteered at Towanda Community Hospital, initiated Meals on Wheels in Towanda, founded the area's first Alzheimer's support group, and served as a Deacon, Elder and Trustee of First Presbyterian Church. After moving to Lancaster in 1987, Sally was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA.

Survivors include her daughters, Susan S. Gatliff, wife of William, of Byron, GA, and Rebecca S. Bumsted, wife of Joseph, of Willow Street, PA; three grandchildren, Edwin Jay Gatliff, husband of Debbie, of Byron, GA, William

Gregory Gatliff of Byron, GA, and Sarah Allison Gatliff of Warner Robins, GA; three great-grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. Her parents, husband, and siblings, Violette S. Hickerson, Joseph H. Smith, Mabel S. Kinne, predeceased her.

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation to staff at The Glen at Willow Valley for their years of outstanding care and unfaltering devotion to Sally.

A Memorial Service will be scheduled in Towanda, PA at a future date. Interment will be in Oak Hill Cemetery, Towanda, PA. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church, 140 East Orange St., Lancaster, PA 17602; Mathias J. Brunner Nursing Education Fund, 211 Willow Valley Square, Lancaster, PA 17602; or Towanda Public Library, 104 Main St., Towanda, PA 18848.

Tribute Wall



“ SARAH SMITH SHEFFEY

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. All of your family is in our prayers.

William Alan Childress - August 15, 2011 at 09:39 PM



“ Dear Becky, Susan, and family,

I was so saddened to hear of the passing on of your mom. She was a very special person. She expressed such joy, love, kindness, encouragement, and grace to those around her. It was a privilege and blessing for me and Larry to get to know her. She especially was an encouragement to me in my faith and years with Campus Crusade. My mother (Betty Reuter) couldn't seem to get online to write a comment unfortunately, but she said to me, "there aren't enough superlatives to describe Sally---she was one of a kind." I feel the same way. We are all sorry for your loss.

*Sincerely,
Maggie & Larry Huber
and Betty Reuter*

Maggie Huber - August 12, 2011 at 09:23 AM

DE

“ Dear Becky and Sue,

Though far away living in Martha's Vineyard, I was looking for an obituary for another friend and saw this one about your mother. I send deepest sympathy to you both and your families.

Your mother was lovely and so very kind. It was exciting to meet her and know that years ago I had met Susan at Wilson when she roomed with Diana Kling from Lancaster, and Becky from Junior League days. We saw one another often when I worked in administration at Willow Valley for nine years. I never realized she was a Swarthmore graduate, as was my first husband, Jack Shertzer.

Just know I am thinking of you.

Sincerely, Debbie (Benson) Everett

Debbie Everett - August 09, 2011 at 11:20 PM

MW

“ May your memories help you through this difficult time.

*Sincerely, Margaret (Archer) Wood
Class of 1951, TVHS*

Margaret (Archer) Wood - August 08, 2011 at 09:22 PM

GB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

*Gayle, Frank and Brandon Borah
Byron, Ga*

Gayle, Frank and Brandon Borah - August 08, 2011 at 06:53 PM