



Obituary

Born: Thursday, September 29, 1927

Died: Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Crystal Bernadine Wood Wright, 87 years young, passed away after fighting a good fight, Wednesday, April 22, at Millcreek Community Hospital in Erie, PA.

Crystal was born September 29, 1927 to Warren Avery Wood and Florence Ethyl Harrington Powers Wood in Columbus, Warren County, PA, then moved to North East as a young child. Growing up in a country setting, she held a great love of the outdoors.

Crystal graduated from North East High School, Class of 1945. She had planned on becoming a nurse, but plans changed, and she instead became a telephone operator in North East in the 1940's and 50's until starting a family. She met her future husband, Archie, at a roller skating rink, where they literally fell for each other. They married September 16, 1949, and were blessed with only the smallest of marital storms for 65 wonderful years. Together they built their home, raised two children, ran their vineyard, provided for a comfortable family life, held many friends dear, and never had a debt.

Crystal was a savvy coupon clipper and bargain hunter, always on the lookout for a great buy.

Her father grew flowers to supply florists, so her passion for growing them came naturally. Flowers will burst yet again from numerous beds surrounding her house and yard, from spring until late autumn. Her favorites were geraniums and roses, and cut flowers adorned the kitchen table.

Crystal showed love for family and friends best by gifting them with her much-loved array of cookies every holiday. Siblings, children, grandchildren, friends across the country and nearby neighbors waited eagerly each year for their boxes of home-baked joy. Her son-in-law was the biggest fan of her fruitcake, and she always put aside a loaf for his birthday in March.

Crystal was involved in Cub Scouts as a den mother, and in charge of the annual PTA Ice Cream Social, for several years while her children were young. She was registrar for the North East Community Fair for 35 years, retiring in her late 70's. All the while she trimmed, tied & picked grapes (when many of those things were still done by hand) until selling the vineyard, helped with Meals on Wheels when time allowed, canned fruits and vegetables grown at home, and made jams and jellies (as coveted as her cookies).

But Crystal will be best remembered for the kindnesses she returned ten-fold, her gentle nature and modest desires. We who have loved her will cherish the memories.

Crystal was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Paul and Burg Wood; sister Vernelle Burrows; a dear sister-in-law Diana Wood; son-in-law James Newman (whom she loved as

Service Summary

Visitation

2:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Sat May 02, 2015

William D. Elkin Funeral Home

65 South Lake Street
North East, PA 16428

Memorial Service

4:30 PM Sat May 02, 2015

William D. Elkin Funeral Home

65 South Lake Street
North East, PA 16428

her own); and very close friends Marian Currie and Mary Sorth. They were all beautiful threads in the fabric of her life.

She will be greatly missed by her beloved husband, Archie; daughter Denise Wright Newman; son Keith Wright (Karen); grandchildren Jay Newman, Oriana, Madison, and Jett Wright; brother Warren Ross Wood; dearest friends, Kay Heidler and sister-in-law Betty Wood; plus many nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank everyone at: North East Family Practice for the extra care and comfort given as time drew shorter, The Community Nurses of North East for their compassion and friendship extended to Crystal over the past year; medical staff at Millcreek Community Hospital for their untiring efforts to make her transition peaceful and dignified. A reception celebrating Crystal's life will be held Saturday, May 2, from 2 to 5pm, at the William D. Elkin Funeral Home, 65 South Lake Street, North East. There will be a short memorial service the last half-hour. All who knew and loved Crystal are invited to attend. Please send condolences to www.elkinfh.com.