



Margaret J. Checkur

November 18, 1929 - May 25, 2017

Wantage – Margaret J. “Peg” (Gilman) Checkur, 87, passed away peacefully with loving family by her side on Thursday, May 25, 2017 in Las Vegas, NV, after suffering several heart attacks.

Peg was born on November 18, 1929, in Sussex and, after a brief time living in Brooklyn, her family moved to the Quarryville section of Wantage. She was the daughter of the late Charles and Jane Lott Gilman. Peg was pre-deceased by her daughter Jane L. Fleming in 1997 and her brother David Payne in 2009. She is survived by Geoff Fleming and his wife Kathy, Paul J. “Pete” Checkur and his wife Lisa, Charles G. “Matthew” Checkur, Dimitri Thomas Checkur and his wife Barbara, and Tanya Margaret Bischoff. She was equally blessed with grandchildren: Jason, Jessica, Julia, Jake, Kara, Erik, Thomas, Kimberly, Kevin, Leah, Kalli and a great-grandson, Jaxon. Peg is also survived by her sister, Dr. Irene “Pat” Gilman and brother Richard Nemeth and his wife Lisa.

Upon graduating from Sussex High School in 1947, Peg attended the NJ College for Women, now Douglass College, and also earned a Master’s Degree from Kean University. For 38 years, she was a dedicated primary school teacher in the Woodbridge Twp. School District, while living in Colonia NJ, where she raised her six children.

Upon retiring from teaching in 1989, Peg returned to the Gilman Farm on Lott Road. There she cared for her mother Jane Giman, who passed away in 1997. A devout, faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of Sussex,

she was also a member of the Red Hat Society and Friends of the Sussex County Library. She enjoyed gardening, knitting, quilting, baking, and making jelly and had a passion for art, painting, and genealogy. She took pleasure in researching her family's genealogy, enabling her family to join the DAR and related American Revolutionary associations. Most of all, she adored family and the extended network of friends and loved ones in her life. She gifted many with her love for people, good stories and her endearing smile.

Peg was a proud member of the Chinkchewunska Chapter, National Society of the Daughter's of the American Revolution and served as regent of the local chapter of the Children of the American Revolution. She spent many hours promoting the DAR's Rev. Elias Van Bunschoten Museum and made period clothing for the children and adults. Most of all, she enjoyed people and visitors who shared a passion for preservation, patriotism and education.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 2, 2017 at North Hardyston Cemetery, Route 94, Hardyston. A celebration of life will be held at the family farm at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Sussex, 21 Unionville Ave., Sussex, NJ 07461.

Friends may pay their condolences to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

North Hardyston Cemetery
Route 94
Hardyston, NJ 07419

Memorial Service

JUL 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Sussex
21 Unionville Avenue
Sussex, NJ 07461

Tribute Wall

NV

“ Peg and I met at Ross Street School in Woodbridge Township, me as a novice teacher with no kindergarten experience, she as a seasoned educator with many years of kindergarten experience. Within days she took me under her wing and with warmth, kindness, joy and respect shepherd me through the nuances of teaching the young child. Peg was my mentor but more importantly a friend.

Knowing how important family was to Peg, it was a pleasure to receive her Christmas cards noting the ever-expanding clan through marriages and births. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with them as they honor the memory of their sister, mother, grandmother.

Nancy Varga

Nancy Varga - July 07, 2017 at 01:44 PM

EL

“ What a great lady. My name is Ed Lott and I live in Dallas, Tx. I first met Peggy about 20 years ago when I was in North Jersey working on my family tree. She was not only a joy to be with but she loaded me down with data that led to me tracking down a lot of my family. Couldn't thank her enough. We stayed in touch with Christmas cards for a number of years and then just lost touch. Know she's in my prayers as are all in her family. If there's a heaven, trust me she's there.

Please thank Irene Gilman for contacting me. I will make a donation to the church.

Ed Lott

Ed Lott - June 28, 2017 at 04:56 PM

JB

“ Was saddened by the news of Peg passing. I had become very close friends of her daughter Jane. We met at school 2 & 16 in Colonia , we were in kindergarten together & remained friends til she passed away in 1996. Peg also taught at the school and she was my first grade teacher! She was kind & caring & will always remember her and your familyas she managed to stay in touch with her annual Christmas newsletter which I will surely miss! Love and prayers to all of you, Julie Durette Bucher

Julie Durette Bucher - June 28, 2017 at 02:42 PM

JS

“ So sorry to hear about your mom's passing it was a great pleasure to know her and spend time with her. Taking care of Mrs Gilman was also a joy she and I would sit on the porch and I would paint her nails much to the delight of Peggy. I have many fond memories of the house and property especially running around with the dog. You all have wonderful memories of her hold them close. Judith Steffener

Judith Steffener - June 11, 2017 at 04:38 PM

VP

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of Ms. Checkur's passing. Growing up with the family, she was as much a part of my life as my own parents. All my best to the family: Tom, Tanya, Matt and Pete; stay close and hold on to the memories. Time heals all.

Vincent Pernice - June 01, 2017 at 07:40 AM

BB

“ *What a wonderful and charming woman. Speaking to Mrs. Checkur was always fascinating to me. She had many stories to tell and I loved to listen to them. Thank you to her son Matt for introducing me to her. Rest in peace Mrs. Checkur.*

Barbara Bartro - May 29, 2017 at 06:42 AM

KC

“ *So sorry for you loss of your Mom and a Grandmother. She has blessed my life with loads of stories and dedication to our museum. She also brought comfort to me when I lost my son two years ago. My hopes and prayers are with you during this sad time. If you need anything, please let us know. Katherine and Charles Cook*



katherine cook - May 29, 2017 at 04:16 AM

PT

“ *Sorry for you loss. She was a wonderful person, she had away of making everyone feel so good to be with her. I loved talking to her about the history of her family. I also enjoy sitting with her by the ice house during Christmas in July at the DAR. She will be deeply missed by everyone. My prayers are with her family. God Bless, Paulette Touw*

paulette touw - May 28, 2017 at 03:52 PM

JR

“ *Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends. May God Bless.
From John & Margaret Rosenkrans, member of The Col. John Rosenkrans Chapter NJSSAR*

John & Margaret Rosenkrans - May 28, 2017 at 02:39 PM