



## Phyllis Marie Murr Paine

May 28, 2023

Phyllis Marie Murr Paine, 91, surrounded by family, passed away Sunday, May 28, 2023. Phyllis spent most of her years farming in South Annville near Fontana. She then resided at Spang Crest and most recently, Harmony at Hershey. She was the loving wife of the late Robert Walter Paine who passed away in 2008.

Born in Lancaster PA, she was a daughter of the late Clyde and Minnie (Killian) Murr. Phyllis spent her childhood living and working on a farm in Quarryville, Lancaster County. After high school, Phyllis continued her education at Lancaster General Hospital School of Nursing. There she studied for three years to obtain a degree as a Registered Nurse. She then joined the Lancaster General Hospital's staff as an Operating Room Technician and received awards for her Operating Room Technique. After marrying Robert Walter Paine, she moved to Somerset NJ near where her husband was stationed in the Navy.

In 1956, Phyllis and her husband purchased a 10-acre farm in South Annville Township, Lebanon County. Surrounding her home were beautiful White Birch Trees. She and her husband named the farm, White Birch Farm. There she raised her family. In addition, she Truck Farmed, managed a Roadside Stand and bred, raised and sold Yorkshire Hogs. Phyllis and Bob were one of the oldest Yorkshire Breeders in Pennsylvania. She planted, grew, harvested and sold fresh produce of all types at the Roadside Stand.

After losing a barn in a misfortunate fire, Phyllis and Bob rebuilt the barn and

added a small glass greenhouse. This grew into White Birch Farm Greenhouses. There Bob planted seeds and Phyllis transplanted seedlings into market packs. They specialized in growing and selling flower and vegetable plants in the spring, fresh vegetables in the summer, pumpkins, squash, gourds, Indian corn and mums in the fall and Christmas trees in winter. Phyllis especially loved gourds in all their various forms. She selected her favorite gourds and saved the seeds for next year's crop. Over the years, White Birch Farm's pumpkins, gourds and squash won many awards at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

She loved the color red, white Gardenias, cloud spotting and sunsets. Occasionally, she would call the neighbors when the sunset was most beautiful so they would not miss out on the experience. Phyllis was a diligent member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Lebanon. She enjoyed all aspects of worship and the Church Community. Phyllis and her husband were involved with The Lebanon Area 4H Fair especially their chicken and ham BBQ dinners. Phyllis was creative, intelligent, curious, kind and a life long learner. She was a selfless person placing others' needs before her own. She will be greatly and deeply missed by all who knew her. May God rest her beautiful soul.

Phyllis is survived by one sister Mariann Roberts; two sons Jeffrey L. Paine and his wife Stephanie of Enhaut; Richard D. Arnold-Paine and wife Kristen of Lebanon; five grandchildren Alexandria Paine, Alisha Miller, Ethan, Peyton, and Owen Arnold-Paine; three great-grandchildren, Andrea Paine and Stella and Sloane Miller; She was preceded in death by her husband Robert Walter Paine and her daughter Karen Paine English.

Funeral services will be held Friday, June 9, 2023 at 12:00PM from Church of the Good Shepherd, 1500 Quentin Rd., Lebanon, PA 17042. Burial will follow at Gingrich Mennonite Cemetery. A viewing will take place from 10AM until the time of her service at the Church.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America

To honor Phyllis, please wear an article of red to the funeral if possible.

# Cemetery Details

## Gingrich's Mennonite Cemetery

100 Forney Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUN 9. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Good Shepherd  
1500 Quentin Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042

## Funeral Service

JUN 9. 12:00 PM (ET)

Church of the Good Shepherd  
1500 Quentin Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ Thank you to the family for a very nice funeral service last week. I grew up on the farm directly next door and was a little younger than Rick. In my teens i worked at the farm and spent alot of time working with the geraniums, mixing potting soil, picking pumpkin's and sweet corn. Bob and i spent many early mornings getting the 1st batch of sweet corn on the stand. Bob and Phil trusted me with the cash box at the stand and i took that seriously. Weeding plants was of course tedious to me and that was hard to get motivated for very long. I remember if we were starting early Phil would make breakfast for us and blueberry pancakes were my favorite. I also remember her offering me a bottle of Coke before the days of super sized soda at Sheetz. Later, a simple but fond memory i had was when soon after mom died i was doing my own wash and hanging it or should i say throwing it over the line to dry. Phil came toward our fence and very kindly and gently said " if you shake the jeans and other wash out it will dry without so many wrinkles". I was amazed at how well that worked and I used that method till the dryer took over that duty many years later. Being a Nurse my mom sought her advice often for us 2 and later 3 kids. The worst was when i ran through a storm door window before the days of safety glass. I'll spare the details here but it was a real mess but with phils help, an emergency room visit and many stiches, i lived through it. What a great way to grow up with the Paine family next door! God Bless your family during this time. sincerely, mike wenger

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mike I. wenger - June 18, 2023 at 09:28 PM

BF

“ Rick, I enjoyed going To White Birch Farm for plants every year. It was always a pleasure to chat with your parents. I'll always remember you as one of my students at A- E! How wonderful, Rick! May you have comfort and peace.  
Betty Forney

Betty Forney - June 07, 2023 at 09:50 AM

CB

“ Cousin Phil and Bob were part of our neighborhood and family! Jeff and Rick, too, were often at our farm. Good people all! Condolences to all!

Christine Bowser - June 05, 2023 at 02:52 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phyllis Marie Murr Paine.



June 05, 2023 at 02:09 PM

JL

“ My husband and I bought our plants from Phyllis and Bob when we purchased our first home. They were both full of knowledge and always giving us tips. Our children enjoyed going there as well. I worked with Karen at the hospital. Wonderful family they will be missed. 💕💕

Joanne Longenecker - June 03, 2023 at 04:53 PM

CW

“ *Phyllis was lovely.  
Kind and compassionate, generous and ambitious, funny and warm.  
A blessing to all.*

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**Carol W.** - June 02, 2023 at 04:50 PM