



## Barbara Jean Peterson

April 11, 1923 - October 27, 2014

BARBARA JEAN PETERSON

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The Peterson and Miller and Holmes families, and friends of Barbara Jean Peterson, mourn her loss.

Barbara was born in Lansing, Michigan, the third of four children of Margaret Holmes Miller and Leland Miller. She grew up in Holt, Michigan, then moved to Lansing, and graduated from Lansing Sexton High School. She met her future husband, Elmer O. Peterson, just before the U. S. entered into World War II. She and Pete married on February 5, 1944. Pete was an administrator at Michigan State University until his retirement in 1979. Barbara lived in Haslett, Michigan and helped found the Haslett Community (UCC) Church in 1954. For a number of years, she served as the minister's secretary at the church. She and Pete raised five children; Gary, married to Mary Ann Yewen and living in Toronto; Lee, married to Michele and living in Ashland City, Tennessee; Thomas, married to Karin Neils and living in Grand Haven, Michigan; Kurt, who survives his late wife, Shirley, and lives in Arlington, Texas; and Eric, married to Susan and living in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Pete died on March 10, 1984, and a few years later Barbara moved to her childhood hometown, Holt, Michigan. She spent many happy years in Haslett and Holt, enjoying being a Cub Scout den mother for her boys, spending parts of many summers at the family cabin in Elk Rapids, visiting with her family and Pete's, and helping and later caring for her mother, Margaret. In 2002 Barbara moved to Fort Collins, where she spent the last twelve years of her life. In Fort Collins, she enjoyed taking care of her cats, attending church, fixing dinners for her family, and sharing the holidays with family and friends, especially the family of Dave and Amy Rosenberg. Scooting around town in her Saturn was a joy to her, and she somehow managed to do it without much collateral damage. A kind and thoughtful mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, she cherished the news, pictures and visits from her seven grandchildren and still growing set of great-

grandchildren. It was important to her to keep in touch with Pete's family through the years, and she was grateful for the recent visits from Pete's sister, Ruth (of blessed memory), and her niece, Ruth Ann Smith, and nephew, Peter Smith.

In addition to her children and their families, Barbara is survived by her brother, Rex Miller, her dear sister, Betty White, many members of Pete's extended family, and many nieces, nephews and cousins on the Miller and Holmes side of the family. All are grateful to Barbara for her warmth, concern for their well-being, and exemplary life of sharing and caring for others.

A memorial service will be held in Lansing, Michigan on November 10th , followed by an interment service at Chapel Hills Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to make memorial gifts are encouraged to contribute to animal care shelters of their choice in Barbara's memory.

# Comments

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“ Randy sent a virtual gift in memory of Barbara Jean Peterson



**Randy** - November 03, 2014 at 02:10 PM

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“ Chrissy lit a candle in memory of Barbara Jean Peterson



**Chrissy** - October 27, 2014 at 03:43 PM