



Clara (Irey) Kelley

May 17, 1925 - December 25, 2012

Clara J. (Irey) Kelley, age 87, wife of the late Noah S. Kelley, of East Coventry, PA passed away on Tuesday, December 25, 2012 in the Cedarbrook Nursing Home, Allentown. Born in Phoenixville, PA she was a daughter of the late Adolph and Bertha (Sims) Irey. Mrs. Kelley was a member of the Bethesda Baptist Church. She retired after 35 years of working as a cafeteria worker for both the Kimberton Farm School and the Owen J. Roberts School District. She enjoyed cooking and baking. Mrs. Kelley is survived by three children, Sharon, wife of Edward Beson of Wescosville, Kenneth T. Kelley of Wescosville, and Doug Kelley (Dolores Varga) of West Chester; two sisters, Betty Shantz of Phoenixville and Patricia Shantz of Zion Grove, PA; three grandchildren, Trevor (Dana) and Nevin (Andrea) Beson, and Colleen Kelley (Daniel Wanger); and five great grandchildren, Jayden, Tyler, Lacey, Leah, and Landen Beson. Relatives and friends are invited to attend her funeral service at the Cattermole-Klotzbach Funeral Home, 600 Washington Street, Royersford, PA 19468 on Monday, December 31, 2012 at 11:00 AM. Officiating will be the Rev. Bill Wexler. Burial will follow in the Oak Grove Cemetery. Friends will be received at the funeral home on Monday morning from 10:00-11:00 AM. Condolences may be offered online by visiting www.RoyersfordFuneralHome.com.

Tribute Wall

DD

“ Sharon, Doug, Ken and all the family. I was so sorry to hear of Mrs Kelley's passing. She was such a nice lady and always so welcoming to me and my family. Her loss is felt by us all. We love you.

Deb and Amanda Carmichael - deb1179@hotmail.com - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DO

“ Clara J.(Irey) Kelley Born May 17th, 1925 in Chester County she grew up in East Vincent Township with two Brothers, Oliver and Donald who we all knew as "Bill", and two Sisters, Betty and Paddy. She met Noah Kelley at the Valley Forge Army Hospital where he was stationed after being wounded in World War II. They married and had 3 Children. Sharon, born in Georgia and who was quickly given the nickname "Peachie" for being, as her Grandfather said, a "Georgia Peach". Kenneth, "Kenny" to most of us, named after his Grandfather, born in Norristown, and Doug, born in Phoenixville. Noah and Clara purchased a farmhouse less than 2 miles from where she grew up and there they raised the family. She played Guitar and Banjo but Doug never remembers hearing her play. Noah played Guitar and Fiddle (don't call it a violin). Perhaps there was live music in the house before the kids came along. Clara could also be heard singing from the pews in Church during services but not around the house. Clara was always busy in the kitchen, and baking was her passion and as Doug remembers, "everyday she would bake a cake, cookies, or a pie". She would spend hours clipping recipes from newspapers and magazines and holding them until one day she would pull them out of this big cardboard box for a trial. One of her favorite expressions was "Here, try this". That's how most of us remember Clara, but here are a few insights given to me by family and friends. Peachie tells of expecting Mom to drive up to Allentown from Pottstown but getting a call that cobwebs had been found in the Attic and that the trip north would be put on hold. Peachie replied to Clara, "MOM", if you die in the next day or two I'll be sure to have the Pastor mention that although Mom was gone, the Attic was clean. As they got older, Grandsons Trevor and Nevin would always be on the lookout for "Grams" as they called her, for they knew Clara would show up bearing "gifts". Gifts from Grams would always be a tin of cookies baked especially for them. One trip it would be Chocolate Chip for Trevor and the next trip it would be Oatmeal Rasin for Nevin. Once dropped off the tin would be hidden until each Grandson had emptied it. "Peachie" never got to see or tates the cookies and soon the empty tin would appear for the next filling. Her Granddaughter Colleen, when old enough to spend days

with "Granny" would find herself strapped into Clara's car, off to the supermarket or Kolb's Dairy Store for milk, eggs and bread, or maybe that day she would be taking Colleen to some school activity. Colleen would race back home to tell her Mom and Dad that she got to experience a "Granny Stop". You see, Clara had a tendency to drive fast. Not unsafe, but she tended to get up to the speed limit in a very short distance. Not only that, but she would wait until the last possible second and jam on the brakes causing Colleen, in the front seat with seatbelt and shoulder harness on, to lunge forward and the seatbelt would engage and lock. This came to be known as a "Granny Stop" and Colleen would count them and report back to Mom and Dad. Once, a local repair shop couldn't understand how she wore brakes out so fast but if you ever rode with her, you understood. Doug remembers the time when she was driving the family up to the cabin near Penn State and he leaned over and saw that the speedometer was resting right at 100 mph. He looked over at this Father and, after making eye contact, the both looked back at the speedometer, still resting comfortably at 100. More than a few times Noah would be seated in the passenger and remind Clare that the "100" sign she was looking at was the Highway number and not the speed limit. Clara tended to guard her recipes closely. Her Daughter in Law Cathy always wanted some of those prized recipes and would continue to politely ask for them but then never seemed to show up. Thoughts were given to just keeping Clara busy in the living room while Cathy "appropriated" the desired formulas. It never came to that and every once in a while Cathy

Doug - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

AI

“ *what a wonderful lady I'm glad you became my aunt I will cherish all the things we shared but two that stand out the most will be your recipes and our day apart birthday. I will miss you aunt Clara as i know many will . Love Angel xo*

Angela Irey - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

Jl

“ Aunt Clara, you are in such a better place now. A place where God is watching over you and you are watching over us. You have made such an impact on my life that I will never forget. Tell Pop-Pop and Granny that I say hi. Love and miss you forever.

Jennifer G. Irej - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

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“ Although the world is a little less vibrant since Clara moved on, the people that she touched are plentiful and she will live on in their memories.

Dolores - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM

DS

“ God needed an angel so he showed you the way on a veary special day,I know you are shineing down on all of us,Are love and preyers to the family Dale And Barbara Sims

Dale And Barbara Sims - simselectric@comcast.nst - July 19, 2013 at 08:34 AM