

Gladys Willauer

October 8, 1927 - October 31, 2015

Gladys K. (Kugler) Willauer, (88), of Parker Ford, widow of Raymond Latshaw Willauer, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, October 31. Born in Parker Ford, she was the oldest daughter of the late H. Franklin and Violet M. (Malenke) Kugler.

Gladys attended both Royersford and Spring City High Schools and graduated from Spring City High School in 1945.

At 18 years of age, Gladys served as the organist for the Parker Ford Church of the Brethren, and continued as an organ or piano accompanist for the next sixty-one years. Never having played an organ when she started, Gladys took organ lessons from her cousin, Ferdinand Malenke. Both of Gladys' parents passed away by the time she was 19, and she became the breadwinner for her three sisters, earning an income by working in the office of the former Sircom Knitting Mill, Spring City.

Gladys was a long-time correspondent for The Pottstown Mercury, reporting on church and other local news. She often joked that along with two correspondent friends who worked for other area newspapers they formed their own "associated press," and shared information. Gladys also wrote occasional feature stories and contributed writings to a variety of publications. She had a feature story published that described visiting and interviewing

author Gladys Taber at her summer home on Cape Cod.

Gladys was a member of Parker Ford Church of the Brethren where, in addition to serving as organist, she was Sunday School treasurer, and with her husband, Ray, elected to the office of deacon. The Willauers were the last couple to be elected as deacons to lifetime terms of office.

Gladys and her husband, Ray purchased the former Latshaw's Bakery in Spring City from Ray's mother, Ruth Latshaw Willauer, and they became third-generation owners of the family business that had started in 1882. Ray continued to serve as the baker as he did when his mother owned the business, and Gladys tended the store and took care of the accounting. All three of the Willauers' sons served as baker's assistants for their parents.

Following the closure of the bakery, Gladys worked as a telemarketer, a job she actually enjoyed. In 1979, she was employed as a receptionist for Dr. Martin Rawdin, optometrist. Eventually becoming office manager, Gladys was employed by Dr. Rawdin for 30 years.

Gladys loved words and language, often completing crossword puzzles in ink. She enjoyed playing Scrabble® and Boggle® with anyone she could find. Gladys also enjoyed Bible study, reading, camping, traveling, and cooking for her family.

In addition to her husband, Gladys was predeceased by a sister, Frances (Frankie) K. Leach. Gladys was the beloved mother of three sons, David R., husband of Connie Willauer, Collegeville; Bradley F., husband of Karen Willauer, Pottstown; and Neil H., husband of Jane Willauer, Parker Ford. She is also survived by two sisters, Alice, wife of Herbert N. Yost; and Rose Ella, widow of Robert M. Latshaw; eight grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren.

A private funeral and interment will be held at the convenience of the family. A memorial service to celebrate Gladys' life will be held at Parker Ford Church, 20 Rinehart Road, Pottstown on Sunday, November 8 at 3:00 p.m., preceded by a time to greet the family at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made in Gladys' name to the Parker Ford Church Building Fund, 20 Rinehart Road, Pottstown, PA 19465.

Cemetery Details

Oak Grove Cemetery

610 S. Main Street
Parker Ford, PA 19457
helicoptergolfing@yahoo.com

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 8. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Parker Ford Church
20 Rinehart Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Funeral Ceremony

NOV 8. 3:00 PM (ET)

Parker Ford Church
20 Rinehart Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Tribute Wall

JS

“ Gladys was always so proud of her family. She was such a lovely lady, always willing to help in anyway she could. God, Church, and family were so close to her heart. We have lost a dear friend and amazing soul. Peace be with you, Gladys. Our condolences to your grieving family.
Dr. and Mrs. Szymala

Jeannette Szymala - November 08, 2015 at 08:16 AM

MA

“ Dear Willauer Family,

Our heart goes out to you at this difficult time. Please accept our deepest condolences.

God Bless,
Abe and Marie (Good) Franks

Marie - November 07, 2015 at 08:52 PM



“ 2 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - November 06, 2015 at 10:26 PM

KS

“ *Dear Willauer Family,
I have very fond memories of going to Parkerford Church and being welcomed by so many people. Gladys reached out to me right away and we became friends. What a kind, wonderful, caring, lovely, and giving person she was. We had fun whenever we spent time together and surely laughed a lot! Her meals were very tasty too! I appreciate the time I spent with Gladys and the entire Willauer family. Gladys, you have a special place in my heart.*

I will keep your family in my prayers and thoughts. We know she is with the awesome Lord Jesus who is beyond loving us more than we can ever image.

*Many Blessings,
Karen Schodle*

Karen Schodle - November 04, 2015 at 04:11 PM

EE

“ *Ed Eselby lit a candle in memory of Gladys Willauer*




Ed Eselby - November 02, 2015 at 08:51 PM

 Mark
Eselby
Sr.

“ *Mark Eselby Sr. lit a candle in memory of Gladys Willauer*



Mark Eselby Sr. - November 02, 2015 at 03:24 PM

 Mark
Eselby
Sr.

“ So many memories of my childhood and sleepovers with "Those Willauer Boys" LOL
Aunt Gladys never had a sour word and always had a warm smile! I can hear her light-hearted chuckle when ever something funny brought it out of her. One of God's angels for sure! Always at the church organ with a kind word & warm welcome.
Our Sincerest condolences to Neil,Brad,Dave and their families!
Mark & Kathleen Eselby

Mark Eselby Sr. - November 02, 2015 at 03:22 PM

 Mark
Eselby
Sr.

“ 3 files added to the album New Album Name



Mark Eselby Sr. - November 02, 2015 at 03:07 PM

GT

“ Blessings to the Willauer Family and all of your Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren and your immediate Family ... A Beautiful Life and Person who has touched so many hearts with Joy and Love ! You will be cherished by every memory and moment ... You have raised such awesome sons and I know as sad they will be in losing you that you will forever be by their side and their families forever !!!
God Bless You sweetest lady for the gifts of knowing your son Mr Willauer thru my children thru school ... He has touched our lives thru
So many memorable moments forever that you take with you knowing your Joy love and happiness has made an incredible mark on so many lives !! Bless You and them and may the Angels always send their comfort to all of you !
God Bless You
Regina Trojan and my Family
Alanna Gilluan Jenna James,Jr and Anna +Jim+



Gina Trojan - November 02, 2015 at 09:03 AM