

# **BERNARD "BERNIE THE BARBER" MEYER**

August 18, 1934 - December 7, 2023



A lifelong resident and fixture of the Brookline community, Bernard Meyer died at the age of 89, on December 7, 2023, surrounded by his devoted wife of 68 years and his loving family.

Known as "Bernie the Barber," he owned and operated the Boulevard Barber Shop for over 60 years. Bernie's barber shop was a main hub of Brookline. It was where all the news of

the neighborhood was traded and the place the neighborhood men came all day to sit inside or out on its stoop, and share their latest stories, jokes, and gossip. To walk in to "The Shop" was to walk into a Norman Rockwell painting. It was perfect. It was Brookline. When you walked out, you not only had a fresh haircut, but you also knew everything that was going on, plus a new joke to tell later at the dinner table.

Bernie was also an accomplished musician as a saxophonist, clarinetist, accordionist, and lead singer in the band "The Rhythm Kings." A man of many talents, Bernie was notably a skilled jack-of-all-trades, cook, gardener, and fisherman. It seemed there was nothing he couldn't do.

In his retirement years, Bernie always could be found at his home listening to polka music, working on a crossword puzzle, watching his backyard birds, tending to his treasured rose bushes, and caring for his dogs. He and his wife Rosary, or "Roe" as he called her, enjoyed traveling and getting away together, whether it was just the two of them going on cruises in the Caribbean or taking their family to their favorite beach spot in Ocean City, MD. Bernie and Rose met in grade school, were high school sweethearts, and never were apart through nearly 70 years of marriage. Summer weekends were spent at their second home in Linesville, PA where countless wonderful memories were created. Dubbed "Weekend at Bernie's," time was spent boating and fishing on Pymatuning Lake, visiting Conneaut Lake Park, playing cards with friends, sitting around the camp fire, and having cook-outs and gatherings with family and friends, especially on the 4th of July.

One thing Bernie always had was his famous sense of humor. He never stopped telling his witty and clever jokes and putting smiles on people's faces. He was really good at that... making people smile.

Above all, Bernie loved his family. He is survived by his loving wife, Rosary Meyer; their two daughters, Charlotte (Chris) Viola and Debbie (Mike) Meyer; three grandchildren, Nicole (Jason) Maxwell, Dana (Chris) Sear, and Michael (Michelle) Viola; and seven great-grandchildren, Olivia, Nathan, Noah, Natalie, Ava, Vincent, and Nicholas. Bernie is also survived by beloved nieces, nephews, and many, many great friends, including Peter Viola. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren affectionately called him Tata, the Polish word for 'dad'. Tata, or Tut, was truly a father to them all. Bernie was preceded in death and is now reunited with his parents Frank and Pearl, and his siblings Loretta, Frank, Jr., Gertrude, Florence, and Rita "Babe." Bernie always spoke lovingly about his family and his memories growing up with them on Leavitt Street in Pittsburgh.

By request, services will be held privately. The family requests that you listen to Bernie's favorite song "The Snow Waltz" to remember and honor him. In lieu of flowers, the family asks a donation be made in his name to Animal Friends to help those animals find owners as loving as Bernie. Arrangements entrusted to **BEINHAUER**, 2630 West Liberty Ave., Dormont 15216, 412-531-4000.

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