

ANNE CAROLYN (ZIESCHE) KEELER



Anne Carolyn (Ziesche) Keeler of Bonita Springs, FL, and Fishers Landing, NY, passed away on March 15, 2024, after 94 years of remarkable health and a final three months with a failing heart. Her longevity is attributed equally to carbohydrates and butter.

Anne was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on September 7, 1929, to Charles Ziesche and Lillian (Knipling) and grew up the fourth of five children.

After graduating from Perry High School in 1947, Anne began working as a doctor's office assistant for Dr. Esmond in Pittsburgh, PA, which set into motion her ultimate career goal of becoming a nurse. She wouldn't realize this goal until many years later though. On June 18, 1949, she married her high school sweetheart Richard (Dick) Keeler (b. 1927 - d. 2010) after he returned from his service in World War II. Following a brief time living in Virginia while Dick was in the service, they resettled in Pittsburgh and began their family. Dick's career would eventually take the family to Johnstown, PA, Emmaus, PA, Reisterstown, MD, and Liverpool, NY - each location bringing new friends into the fold.

In 1975, Anne's children were all grown enough that she was able to go back to school for nursing, which she often said was her greatest accomplishment. At the age of 48, she graduated from Community College of Allegheny County with her LPN and began working as a nurse which she continued part-time after Dick retired in 1986. In 1987, after some travel around the United States, they bought a small seasonal camp on the St. Lawrence River in Fishers Landing, NY. The river quickly became her favorite place to be and served as the setting for many happy memories with her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, countless friends, and a few of the luckiest and most spoiled dogs to ever live. Anne and Dick also later began wintering in FL, first in Winter Haven and later in Bonita Springs and Naples. She will be missed by so many and remembered for her warmth, competitiveness at games, great sense of humor, and countless one-liners.

She was survived by her four children, Linda Kortlandt of Naples, FL, Richard Keeler (Johnna) of Butler, PA, Robert Keeler (Margie) of Kiawah, SC, and Janet Abrahamson (Neil) of Columbia, NH; seven grandchildren, Lillian Colasurdo (Roseanne) of Williston, VT, Molly Keeler McNeill of Charleston, SC, Laura Williams (Elliott) of Glen Mills, PA, Caroline Price (Billy) of Charleston, SC, Doug Kortlandt (Nora) of Pittsburgh, PA, Cassidy Woodsum (Nate) of Hampton, NH, and Garrett Keeler of Butler, PA; and five great-grandchildren, Sophie, Elliott, William, Bennett, and Bowen.

Donations will be accepted, in Anne's name, at Omar-Fishers Landing United Methodist Church at P.O. Box 461, Fishers Landing, NY 13641, and Joanne's House in Bonita Springs at Hope Hospice Development Department, 9470 Health Park Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908.

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