



Mrs. Bernice Ledford Somers

May 1, 1925 - June 28, 2021

Bernice L. Somers, 96, passed away peacefully at her home in Chambersburg, PA, on Monday, June 28, 2021. Born Bernice Elaine Ledford to Roy Ledford and Hannah Levin Ledford on May 1, 1925, in Philadelphia PA, she graduated in 1943 from Frankford High School and subsequently received a degree from the Philadelphia College of Arts in 1946, and pursued a career as a commercial artist.

On February 26, 1955, Bernice married Dr. Ernest E. Somers in Iowa City, Iowa. They later moved to Uniontown PA, and in 1972 to Chambersburg. Bernice is survived by Jocelyn Somers, Julia Somers-Arthur and her husband Stephen Arthur, Jeremy Somers and his wife Cynthia Golden, Rachel Hull and husband John Hull, and Olivia Somers and husband Douglas Holton. She is also survived by seven grandchildren: Grace Hull and husband David Challoner, Matthew Hull, Adam Arthur, Alex Arthur, Cole Somers, Hannah Somers and Emma Somers, in addition to great-grandchildren Blakely Dean and Karoline Challoner. Bernice was predeceased by her brother Alan Ledford in 1983, her daughter Elizabeth in 1984 and her husband Ernest in 2010.

Bernice was actively involved in the betterment of her community. She was a founding member of the Chambersburg Quilt Guild, a member of the Coyle Friends of the Library, volunteer at the Chambersburg Hospital, and an avid supporter of the Franklin County Legal Services Annual Bookfair where she

applied her love of books and vast knowledge of literature to the valuation of rare books, enjoying the friendship of fellow book lovers.

Bernice had a thirst for knowledge and new experiences. As a young woman, she traveled to post-WW II Paris and lived among fellow artists, honing her craft. Upon her return to the US, she was a commercial artist for medical journals. As a wife and mother, she devoted herself to her husband and children. She loved gardening, quilting, opera and music of all types, culinary pursuits, books, and travel. She had a special place in her heart for Oregon, where she spent many summers with her daughters and their children exploring Portland and the Manzanita area. She made her children feel valued and loved, encouraging and supporting them throughout her life. Her greatest joy was being surrounded by her children and grandchildren.

Friends and family are invited to pay their respects on Monday, July 5, from 2:00-4:00 PM at Sellers Funeral Home, 297 Philadelphia Avenue, Chambersburg, PA, 17201.

Memorial donations may be made in lieu of flowers to the ACLU, Southern Poverty Law Center, Franklin County Legal Services, or South Central Pennsylvania Food Bank.

Online condolences may be expressed at Sellersfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 5. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

William F. Sellers Funeral Home
297 Philadelphia Ave.
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Tribute Wall

JW

“ Rachel I am so sorry to read of your mother's passing. I met her years ago when we were both taking the same class at Shippensburg State College. I enjoyed talking with her.
Judy Walter

Judy Walter - July 13, 2021 at 06:44 AM

TV

“ Bernice was an intelligent, kind hearted person who raised remarkable children. You all have our deepest sympathy and will be in our thoughts.

The Vitti Family: Pete, Kelly, Anna and Rosa

The Vittis - July 03, 2021 at 10:04 PM

LH

“ We at the Chambersburg Quilt Guild are greatly saddened by the passing of Mrs. Somers. As one of our foresighted founders, she helped to advance the appreciation of Art thru Quilting and added so much to the Chambersburg Community! As we look forward to our 40th anniversary, we will remember her as the beautiful, creative lady that she was!

Linda Hartman - July 03, 2021 at 08:27 PM