



# Groome Mears

JUL 17, 1925 - JUL 30, 2012



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## **Groome Mears**

JUL 17, 1925 - JUL 30, 2012

**G**roome Mears, Jr., age 87, of Lewes, DE, passed away on Monday, July 30, 2012 at Beebe Medical Center. He was born in Chester, PA on July 17, 1925 son of the late Groome Mears, Sr. and Katharine Durborrow Mears. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife Patricia Carter Mears in 1981 and a sister Virginia Mears.

Mr. Mears was a graduate of Middletown High School and the Eckels College of Embalming. Following his schooling, he served with the US Navy during WW II as a Corpsman. After his service to his country he returned to begin work in the funeral profession with the Mealey and Spicer-Mullikin Funeral Homes of Wilmington. In 1947 he opened his own funeral home in Middletown, DE which he owned until retirement in 1992. During his residency in Middletown, he was a member of the Bethesda United Methodist Church where he served as choir director for 40 years; he was a member of the Rotary; former member of the School Board; and he also served as the director of the former Middletown Volunteer Fireman's Band.

After his retirement he and his wife Rosann D'Addurno Mears moved to the Lewes area where he became very active with the Lewes Presbyterian Church serving as choir director for nine years, retiring in 2011 and he was director of the Lewes Men's Chorus. He was also a Licensed Funeral Director on Staff with Parsell Funeral Homes since 1998. Many enjoyable times were also spent with his friends in the "Meet Loaf Club."

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons: Groome Mears III and wife Jill and John Carter Mears and wife Eileen, all of Townsend, DE; three daughters: Gretchen Lasswell of Crystal Beach, MD, Katharine Sweetman and husband Doug and Martha C. Williams and husband Bill, all of Townsend, DE; a step-daughter, Holly D'Addurno and husband Cliff Layman of Raleigh, NC; eleven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, August 3, 2012 at 10:00 AM at the Lewes Presbyterian Church, 133 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE. A viewing will be held on Thursday August 2, 2012 from



## Obituary

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6-8 PM at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE.

Graveside services with military honors will be held at 3 PM on Friday August 3, 2012 at Forest Cemetery, Middletown, DE.

In lieu of flowers contributions are suggested to the Lewes Presbyterian Church Music Program, 133 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE.

Please sign Mr. Mears' online guest registry at this site.

PDF Printable Version



## Tribute Wall

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DF

**Danna Frey** posted:

I've just read this, for the first time. Groome was choir director at Bethesda, when my husband, John, and I were part of "his" choir (1985-91). We so enjoyed singing under his direction...had fun, too - whispering and laughing - like ornery kids. We found Groome to be a man of dedication and honorable character. John left this earth - for his Heavenly Home - on 2/5/2017.

September 30 at 11:55 AM

JW

**Jay And Judy Walls** posted:

Our sympathy goes out to you. Groome was such a good man and a blessing wherever he went. The choir in heaven will have a great voice. God bless you all. Jay, Judy and Everett Walls

August 3 at 8:00 PM

BA

**Betty Alfree** posted:

Mr. Mears, I was such a little girl when I first met you and you were such a presence in my early childhood. I will always cherish the family values and memories I was able to be a part of. You helped raise me too and I will forever be grateful. I'm glad we got the opportunity to see each other last summer, I will hold that memory in my heart. JC, Groome, Gretchen and Martha, my thoughts and prayers are with you. My dear Katie, I love you and I will always be here for you. Cherish your memories and let them give you comfort over the next few days/weeks.

August 2 at 8:00 PM

DL

**Donna & Jon Larue** posted:

Dear Groome & Jill, Jon & I are so sad to hear of your Dad's passing. After reading his obit he sounded like a wonderful man who led a full life. We will be thinking of you and your family during this difficult time. We lost my Dad in November & know how hard this is. Sincerely, Donna & Jon

August 2 at 8:00 PM

PW

**Patsy & Ken Warner** posted:

Mr. Mears has always been a contributing member of the community and a giving man. His music was a gift to all. Patsy Meredith Warner

August 1 at 8:00 PM



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JL

**Joanne (Frazer) Lambert** posted:

To the family of Mr. Mears: My grandmom (Ethlyn Frazer) lived across the street from your family, and my thoughts take me back to such a wonderful father and good christian man your dad was. I remember sitting in the pews at Bethesda each Sunday and being blessed with your dad's presence. My heart and prayers go out to all of you in this very sad time.

August 1 at 8:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Groome Mears, Jr..

August 1 at 8:00 PM

GF

**Glenn Frazer** posted:

So many memories flood through my mind when I think of Groome, the choir, and Middletown when it was a much different place to live. My thoughts & prayers are with Groome III, J.C., Gretchen, Martha and your families.

August 1 at 8:00 PM

GJ

**Glenn J. Gee** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with the family. He was a great gentleman. A great person whom I worked for many years ago. May he rest in peace.

August 1 at 8:00 PM

JL

**Joyce Layton** posted:

Roseann I am so sorry for your loss My thought are with you and family. Joyce Lynch Layton

August 1 at 8:00 PM

CB

**Carol Shaffner Brunner** posted:

Dear Mears Family, I am deeply sadden at the passing of your father. He was a sweet man with much compassion for others. I hold you each in my heart, at this most difficult time. May you each find comfort in your memories of him.

July 31 at 8:00 PM



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JK

**Judy And Harry Kline** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your loss. May wonderful memories help sustain you. I know Groome and Jill through their music. We have played together at St. Mark's over the years. I know Eileen Mears through IAAP for the last 20 years. May God wrap His loving arms around you and give you comfort and peace. Love and God's blessings to you. Judy and Harry Kline

July 31 at 8:00 PM

DR

**Denise Craig-Reinike** posted:

Katie Mears Sweetman and Mears Family, As the days and weeks pass, and as you return to life's routine, may you continue to feel comforted by the love and support of family and friends. All Our Love, Kevin, Denise, Thomas and Travis Craig-Reinike/ Glanding

July 31 at 8:00 PM

BG

**Barbara Burris Gruwell** posted:

Dearest families, it is with sadness that I read of Groome's passing. He was a neighbor for many years in Middletown. Such a warm and loving person. I know he has left many wonderful memories to all of you to help in the difficult days ahead. May God Bless you with comfort, strength and peace of mind. Barbara B. Gruwell

July 31 at 8:00 PM

BC

**Barbara Jones Collins** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Your dad was an amazing man and I have many childhood memories that include him. He will be missed.

July 31 at 8:00 PM

CF

**Carter/Wallis Families** posted:

To the family of Mr. Mears..Our heartfelt sympathy to you all. He was a wonderful sweet man. Although we have not had the privilege to see him lately..we do remember him just as his smile in this picture.... Warm and kind..xoxoxoxo

July 31 at 8:00 PM



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BM

**Bob & Gloria Miller** posted:

So sorry to hear of your loss. We have fond memories.

July 31 at 8:00 PM

MG

**Mark George** posted:

GM, JC, Gretchen, Martha and Katie, so sorry to hear about your loss. So many wonderful memories from growing up just down the street -- especially the funeral home aspect: hearses,bodies etc. Never knew of your dad's interest and participation in music. May God wrap each of you in His mighty arms during this time of sorrow...lean on Him and allow His strength to carry you.Rosann and Holly, though we do not know each other, my thoughts and prayers go out for you as well. May God hold you and yours in His gentle hands as you grieve the passing of a loved one.1Peter5:10

July 31 at 8:00 PM

BS

**Barbara Sinsabaugh** posted:

JC and family, Sorry to hear about your father, our prayers and thoughts are with you. Barbara and John Sinsabaugh

July 31 at 8:00 PM

KS

**Katie Mears Sweetman** posted:

Daddy, I will always carry you in my heart. Always remember what you taught me & told me. I miss you and grateful you were my dad. I will always love you.

July 30 at 8:00 PM

MW

**Martha Mears Williams** posted:

Daddy,"The Gospel according to Groome"... is & will be forever, the most cherished memory of a Very Special & Wonderful father that God gave me! For the many words of encouragement, advice, and just simple "talks"... I will always cherish them!! And, Cherish YOU! I Love You with All My Heart, and Always will! You will be missed VERY much

July 30 at 8:00 PM



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LM

**Lori Mays** posted:

To the Mears Family . My heart breaks for each and every one of you, Mr.Mears was such a wonderful man with many words ..Groome never met a stranger. Please find peace in his knowing he lived such a joyful life. Know that he loved and adored all of you on so many levels.My the great memories of him guide you through your days of sorrow. Rest in Peace Mr.Mears. Your legacy will live on forever !

July 30 at 8:00 PM

CP

**Carter And Joyce Palmer** posted:

WE were so shocked to hear of Groom's passing. So sorry for your loss. You have our prayers and sympathy. Love Carter

July 30 at 8:00 PM

KR

**Karen And Felix Rutkoske Jr** posted:

We have very fond memories of the kind and pleasant man that your father was. Thinking of your family at this sad time.

July 30 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Groome by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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