



Betty Jane Cleaver

MAR 5, 1942 - JAN 7, 2025



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Betty Jane Cleaver

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Betty Jane Cleaver, 82, of Lewes, DE, passed away on Tuesday, January 7, 2025. She was born in Lewes on March 5, 1942, to the late Ernest and Charlotte (Smith) Rice.

Betty was born and raised on Lewes Beach, DE, and was a proud graduate of Lewes High School, class of 1960. She spent many years working at Rickards and Ramsey on Lewes Beach, as well as at The Beach Deli, where she became a beloved member of the community.

In addition to her parents, Betty was preceded in death by her husband, Ben Atwood Cleaver, in 2014; two sons, Scott and Trey Cleaver; and two brothers, Victor Gordan Rice and Ernest Melvin Rice.

She is survived by her son, Robert Allen Cleaver; daughters, Karen (George) Hunsicker and Kathryn (Troy) Virden; her sister, Elizabeth "Libby" Ann Hamilton (Harold); her sisters-in-law, Elizabeth "Beth" Cleaver and Jean Rice; grandchildren, Sarah, Jake, and Josh Hunsicker, Travis Shalaby, and Jordyn and Tanner Virden; as well as great-grandchildren, Michaela, and Ryelynn Shalaby.

Betty will be deeply missed by her family and friends, whose lives she touched with kindness, warmth, and love. Her memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew her.

Funeral services will be private, held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Brandywine SPCA at 22918 Dupont Blvd., Georgetown, DE 19947, or the Lewes Fire Department at P.O. Box 225, 347 Savannah Rd., Lewes, DE 19958.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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Patti Virden lit a candle in honor of Betty.

Kathy ,Karen, and Bobby and all of the family. My thoughts and prayers are with you. She is with her soulmate she has missed all these years. She will be missed terribly. Love Patti Virden

January 28 at 3:53 PM



Stephanie Seel Lattomus posted:

Sending condolences to the family. She was kind and gracious. She taught me a lot about family and how to treat others.

January 21 at 3:20 AM



Sherry Swartzel posted:

She was always such a kind person to me and made me feel like family. And I always loved how she would not sugar coat her thoughts! I'm sure she will be desperately missed by the Cleaver clan and friends. Sending prayers for healing to all! 🙏🙏

January 16 at 2:07 PM



Garrick Weaver posted:

So sorry to hear of her passing. I worked briefly at The Beach Deli and enjoyed working with her. She definitely treated the customers as friends.

January 13 at 1:03 PM



Karla Webb- Horne lit a candle in honor of Betty.

Kathy, Karen, and Bobby... I am so sorry for your loss. Your Mom was always so nice, as well as your Dad. Praying you all find peace in her memory.

January 10 at 3:23 PM



RC Robert Cleaver January 11 at 8:27 AM
Thank you

SL Scott Lawson January 11 at 6:30 AM
I'm so sorry for the loss of your mom.



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SR

Sherri Reardon lit a candle in honor of Betty.

January 10 at 11:35 AM



TD

Trish Rickards-Dickerson lit a candle in honor of Betty.

So very sorry for your loss. Many fond memories of your mom growing up. She made my subs for lunch before I would go to Kindergarten each day.

January 10 at 10:37 AM



EL

Ellen posted:

So sorry for The Entire Cleaver Family. Sending our heartfelt condolences to you all. Always cherish your memories

January 10 at 9:48 AM

EL

Ellen lit a candle in honor of Betty.

January 10 at 9:46 AM



EM

Ethel Maull posted:

My severe condolences i will always the fun we had working at Jb Walsh grocery store n the fun at her house.

January 10 at 8:18 AM



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Joann Elliott posted:

My deepest condolences to the Cleaver family.....🙏❤️

January 10 at 7:49 AM



Robert Cleaver January 11 at 8:26 AM

Thank you so much



Martin Johnson January 11 at 8:09 AM

My sympathy to Betty Jane's family. My name is martin Johnson and I once occupied a "keyboard" next to Betty Jane in a typing class. I was very shy but flattered when she asked me to sign her senior Beacon in 1960. I will never forget how nice she treated me in typing. I also sat in front of her brother Victor in the second grade, Mrs. Houston class, and remember vividly his fatal accident in April of 1951. Mahalo to you all, martin



Robert Cleaver January 10 at 7:37 PM

Thank you



Memories only last if you share them

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



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