



## Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn"

July 28, 1940 - March 11, 2020

Florist Note- Please deliver any floral arrangements to the Lewes Funeral Home on Monday by 3 PM.

Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn", age 79 , of Lewes, DE passed away in her sleep on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, at her late residence.. She was born July 28, 1940 in Wilmington, DE, daughter of the late Leon Stein and Elnora Benson Stein.

Mrs. Cecil was a 1958 Graduate of PS DuPont High School and later received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in French from the University of Delaware.

After college, Lynn started a career in language teaching and later switched to insurance and financial planning and was one of the first women to receive the designation of CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter) along with other designations (ChFC, AEP) and was a recipient of the prestigious Palmer Award for her career contributions to the insurance industry in Delaware. She was involved in the Methodist Church and many community organizations and was the president of the Lewes Beach Rotary International Chapter.

Lynn loved to travel and visited many parts of the world, including many countries in Europe, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Egypt, Brazil as well of many parts of the U.S. including Alaska and Hawaii. Lynn was also a very patriotic person and was proud to be a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and volunteered with her children's involvement in the CAR as well.

She enjoyed being involved in her husband's political career and working on his campaigns, as well as those of others, and even met President Reagan as part of their work with the Republican National Committee.

Lynn mostly loved her family and her many friends. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and her priority was always with making sure everyone was taken care of and rarely thought of her own needs. She loved spending her summers in Lewes Beach

with her family and Lucky, her faithful Irish setter. We have the fondest memories of vacations spent in Lewes with close friends and members of the LBAAA. Because she loved it so much, Lynn and Dick eventually retired to Lewes Beach and she spent much of her time playing bridge and doing water aerobics and having fun with friends in groups like the Red Hatters.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her three siblings, Lee, Joyce and Mary and her stepson, Richie. She is survived by her husband of 55 years Richard C. Cecil "Dick"; two sons, Robert Cecil (Terilyn) of Lewes, DE and Ryan Cecil (Nathalie) of Centerville, DE; 2 grandchildren Roxanne and Eric and a Sister-in-Law Geraldine Stein of Wilmington, DE

Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, at 11:00 AM at the Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE. where friends may visit one hour prior to services.

In lieu of flowers contributions are suggested to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Delaware Valley Chapter, 2002 Sproul Road, Suite 102, Broomall, PA 19008

Please sign Mrs. Cecil's online guest book located on this site.

# Events

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**MAR** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**17**

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel  
16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, US, 19958

**MAR** **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

**17**

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel  
16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, US, 19958

# Comments

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“ Dick, Rob & Ryan,  
Since the day that Lynn and Dick were married, we have enjoyed their friendship greatly. Lynn was great fun and always hospitable on our visits to their home in Wilmington as well as on our vacations in Lewes. We celebrated at weddings of our children, and we mourned the loss of Richie. Now we mourn the loss of Lynn. She has left us with very happy memories.  
Don and Nancy Kiddoo, Whippany, NJ

**Nancy Kiddoo** - April 01, 2020 at 09:48 AM

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“ 29 files added to the album Mom



**Ryan Cecil** - March 30, 2020 at 11:27 AM

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## “ Eulogy for mom

Thank you all for coming here on this solemn occasion to say goodbye to my beloved mother, Lynn Cecil. Rob, Richie and I were very lucky to have her for a mother. She was loved by so many people, but only we three got to call her mom.

Not long ago, my wife, Nathalie, and I were discussing a friend who died suddenly, and she said to me, “We are not much in this world are we? We are born. We get an education, find a job, find someone to love, raise a family, retire and then suddenly, we are gone...”.

I said “Yes, dear, and that’s if everything goes well!”

My mother had many hardships along the way, and many crosses to bear, which she did without ever complaining, but overall, she was quite lucky and really did have a life well lived. The family she was born into, was not at all well to do, and often it was a strain making ends meet, but there was love and there was faith and there was community. There’s actually an interesting story about how my grandfather couldn’t figure out how to afford a clarinet for my mother to play in the middle school band. He ended up skipping lunch for over a year to scrape up the money to pay for it. The reward for his sacrifice was that he got to see his daughter learn her instrument and then dump it as soon as she got into high school because “the band is for nerds”.

One of the hardships my mother had, was losing her father when she was only 16. It wasn’t easy, but fortunately she had big brother, Lee, who accepted his role well as man of the house. I don’t think anyone would have dared give my mother a hard time with big, handsome 6 foot 4, Lee always there, not that she needed protection. My mother was quite popular and a great dancer, in fact they were almost all great dancers at P.S. DuPont High School class of ’58. Some of her classmates were regulars on American Bandstand that was shot nearby with Dick Clark in Philadelphia. She had a wonderful high school experience living half a block away from school on 35th street.

She went on to the University of Delaware doing her undergraduate degree and receiving a scholarship to do a Master’s in French there as well. She commuted from Wilmington all but one or two of her semester’s because that was the only way to afford it.

My parents actually met through my Uncle Lee who was a fraternity brother with my father at Kappa Alpha. My father came by the house one time to visit when he was in his twenties and my mother was about 11 or so. She begged him for a ride on his motorcycle (an old Norton) which he reluctantly agreed to, and much to her dismay he rode only down the back streets and alleyways, which ruined her plans to be seen by all her friends. They met up many years later when my father was a widower with a sick child and by that time the nine-year age gap no longer seemed like much.

My mother did student teaching at Brandywine High School, which is the alma mater for both me and my brother and where my lovely bride of almost thirty years is currently teaching. She later took over my father’s insurance business when he got

into politics. My father had been working at DuPont, but wasn't really happy there, and another fraternity brother, Les Ridings, convinced my father to leave there and join him in the insurance industry. Les later convinced my father to go into politics. My grandmother said to my father, "First he gets you to do insurance, then he convinces you to go into politics...what's next robbing banks?"

My mother did very well in the insurance business which also worked well with her being able to adjust her schedule to make time for family, including raising children, community organizations, helping my father's political career and even being able to take summer's off to be in Lewes Beach with only occasional trips up north to take care of business. My mother was in many ways ahead of her time including figuring out the "work life balance" that so many people talk about t

Ryan Cecil - March 22, 2020 at 11:53 AM

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“ Dick & Family, all members of the Cecil Family are in my prayers! I have had the pleasure of knowing Lynn and Dick for many, many years, mainly through first, NALU, and subsequently NAIFA functions in Delaware, National Meetings around the county and social functions in all three DE counties. Lynn was a very serious and well qualified Life Insurance Underwriter and Estate Planning Specialist. Whenever Lynn, Dick and I travelled to National NAIFA Meetings, we always had at least one dinner together. I remember the meeting in San Francisco.....after a long day of meetings, we were having dinner at a Fisherman's Wharf restaurant.....I ordered squid soup whereby Lynn had a very off color remark that made everyone at the table laugh for a very long time. Lynn was like that.....a very serious side when it came to work along with a very funny side at appropriate times.

May everyone have the STRENGTH you need for TODAY and the HOPE you need for Tomorrow!!

In Deepest Sympathy,

Chuck Landon  
Lewes, DE

charles Landon - March 20, 2020 at 12:31 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Dick and all of Lynn's family and friends. Lynn was a true professional in every sense of the word. Quick wit, focused and industrious, and devoted to her family.

To Dick, my friend and work colleague at both the Insurance Department and Blue Cross, the 2 of you were a powerful and formidable duo. May the warm embrace of all of the wonderful memories created by you and Lynn during your lifetime together sustain you and comfort you in the days ahead. Her legacy will endure in the memories of your children and grandchildren.

Peace to you all.

Dana Shreve

Dana Shreve - March 17, 2020 at 02:22 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn".



March 17, 2020 at 08:26 AM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn".



March 16, 2020 at 03:28 PM

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“ Dear Dick So Sorry to hear of Lynns passing. Childhood friend from Second Ave . Claymont. ohs 59. Allen W. Garvine.

Allen Garvine - March 16, 2020 at 12:07 PM

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“ Dear Dick,

I'm so sorry to hear about Lynn's passing. May the support of your family and friends help you through this sad time.

**Dina M. Hughes, NAIFA DE** - March 16, 2020 at 08:37 AM

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“ A pleasure knowing Lynn and Dick for many years thru Tri County and NACO. Always very friendly and great person. Praying for family for peace and comfort.

**Dale Dukes** - March 15, 2020 at 08:49 PM

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“ I enjoyed many games of bridge with Lynn. She often sealed the game with her expertise. She will be missed.

**Dorothy Y. Woodbury** - March 15, 2020 at 06:30 PM

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“ Honor to have known Lynn for many years mostly in lewes rehoboth rotary where she worked on the scholarship committee. She was always ready to participate in various programs. A true lady who will be missed. Sending prayers to family for peace. Georgiann deist.

**georgiann deist** - March 15, 2020 at 03:38 PM

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“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn".



March 15, 2020 at 03:34 PM

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“ Roger Lunbeck class of '58.

Roger Lunbeck - March 15, 2020 at 12:44 PM

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“ We will remember the years we lived on Lewes Beach in a house owned by the Cecils. Lynn would make sure we were taken care of during the many times we were flooded out. I felt she was more of a friend than landlord. She also represented the company who provided the BPW with its pension plan. Since I retired from the Board of Public Works, we lost touch but I thought of her often. So sorry to hear of her passing. Our condolences to her husband and family. Ruth Anne Ritter McMahon

Ruth Ritter mcmahon - March 14, 2020 at 05:02 PM



“ We enjoyed marching with our Irish Setters in the St Patrick's day parade, RIP Lynn

elaine Boyle - March 15, 2020 at 10:04 AM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn".



March 14, 2020 at 04:24 PM

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“ Mrs. Cecil will be greatly missed. My condolences to Mr. Cecil, Rob, Ryan and the whole Cecil/Stein family. She always made me feel welcome and taught me so much about life. I loved her like family. She always found a way to laugh and make light of just about anything. I will remember her laugh for the rest of my days. I miss you, Mrs. Cecil. RIP

scott cox - March 14, 2020 at 03:29 PM

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“ Lynn kept us entertained on Lewes beach where the LBBAA gathered every August. I would vote Lynn as the President of the clan. She kept us laughing, her best performance... her cheer-leading on the beach for all to enjoy, here it is...  
Bo-bo ski watten totten,  
Ah-ah-ah, boom boom boom  
Itty bitty wotten totten  
Bo bo ski watten tatten  
Bo bo ski wotten tatten-BOOM  
To Lynn xo LBBAA (Lewes Beach Bad A— Association, You will be on the beach forever!

Mary Ellen Goetz - March 14, 2020 at 10:42 AM

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“ With Deepest Sympathies with and for Dick and Each Member of the Family. Lovely in her always outgoing feelings and approach to others, she was un matched in her loyalty and attendance to her husband---he in ever thoughtful pursuit of Civic responsibility.  
Please accept my only kindness feelings for You Each.  
Charlie Weymouth---Wilmington

CHARLIE WEYMOUTH - March 14, 2020 at 09:29 AM

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“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ruth Evelyn Cecil "Lynn".



March 13, 2020 at 06:25 PM