



## Ruth L. Fairbee

December 12, 1936 - March 17, 2019

Ruth L. Fairbee, age 82 of Lewes, DE, departed this life from her home on Sunday, March 17, 2019. She was born on December 12, 1936 in Barberton, OH, daughter of the late Glenn I. and Doris Ann (Webb) Neitz. She was also preceded in death by her brother Carl Neitz and sister Shirley Ann Neitz (Coffee).

Ms. Fairbee earned a Bachelor's Degree from Mount Union College, Alliance, OH and built a career in education as an elementary school teacher. She was also a swimming instructor. Ruth said that teaching students to swim was one of her great joys.

Upon moving to Lewes her career took many turns, from working at Nassau Orchards to working for the University of Delaware, to pharmacy tech at Beebe hospital, and finally retiring from Tom Best.

Retirement then allowed her to be involved in many other things in and around Lewes. She was not an idle woman. Seldom home, she was always looking for an event or program to be involved with or attend. One of these groups, Unity Church was a place she found comfort, peace and opportunities to do good work.

Most recently, she drew closer to her daughter Gail, with time well spent fixing computers and just being together. Other family members and friends were always important to Ruth. She could tell you all about people in her life from the past as well as new friends. "Gaw" was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend who was loved by many and will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Mrs. Fairbee is survived by her daughter, Gail M. Burgess (Dickie) of Milford, DE; her grandchildren: Sarah J. Burress (Jason) of Milford, DE and Richard H. Burgess of Milford, DE; her great-grandsons: Carter A. Burress and Clark H. Burress, both of Milford, DE; and her sister, Marilyn Narby of Syracuse, NY; many nieces and nephews, as well as grandnieces and grandnephews.

A Memorial Service will be held on Monday, March 25, 2019 at 11:00 AM, at Parsell Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, where friends may visit beginning at 10:00 AM. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Brandywine Valley SPCA Georgetown, DE at <https://bvspca.org/donate/>.

Please visit Mrs. Fairbee's Life Memorial Webpage and sign her online guest book at [www.parsellfuneralhomes.com](http://www.parsellfuneralhomes.com).

Please sign the online guestbook located on this site.

**FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3PM SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019 TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.**

# Events

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

**25**

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

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

**25**

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

# Comments

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“ Ruth was a truly one of a kind. I met Ruth through my husband, Garth, when they were in rehab together at Beebe Hospital. He passed away in December, and I continued our friendship. We had lunch once a month, and she was truly a joy to be with. She will be missed by many people.

**Maryann Worrell** - April 01 at 09:20 AM

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“ I was new to Unity when I met Ruth. As we sat together every Sunday in the back row , Ruth and I got the reputation as the rowdy ones. We had a ball. Much love was shared between us. Oh how we all will miss "our" Ruth. Love you Ruth-Bronwen

**Bronwen Hamilton** - March 25 at 08:45 AM

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“ Gail Smith lit a candle in memory of Ruth L. Fairbee



**gail smith** - March 23 at 08:12 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Terri Straut** - March 23 at 12:12 PM

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“ I will miss Ruth so much. She has been a dear friend for over 40 years. It's not often that you stay in touch with your high school boyfriend's step mom. That's how I met Ruth, but she was so much more to me. She always believed in me and never hesitated to tell me what she thought about any situation. We always carved out a

little time whenever I would come home to Delaware, a breakfast (with scrapple for her) or a couple glasses of wine and a nice long talk. I miss her profoundly, but am hopeful that she is with her dear David and my Patrick in the next realm. Thank you Ruth, for being my other mother for all those years. My heart goes out to all the family, who she loved with all her heart. I'm sorry I can't be there to give my condolences in person, but I will be there in spirit.

I need to find a photo of her on the beach, that's how I remember her (but those days were before digital photos).

Love you guys!

Terri Taylor Straut

**Terri Straut** - March 22 at 07:57 PM

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“ With much Love from Unity of Rehoboth Beach purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ruth L. Fairbee.



**With much Love from Unity of Rehoboth Beach** - March 22 at 01:31 PM

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“ Ruth's sense of humor will be sorely missed by her Unity Family. She was a delight every Sunday and she did her part to make our Fellowship time GREAT! I miss your smile, your energy and your humor. Keep 'em rocking in the 'beyond' Ruth!

**Sandy Souder, Spiritual Leader, Unity** - March 22 at 01:23 PM

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“ Teresa Hazel lit a candle in memory of Ruth L. Fairbee



**Teresa Hazel** - March 22 at 12:43 PM



“ My Neighbor ! My Friend! You will be missed.

**Teresa Hazel** - March 22 at 12:44 PM

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“ Aunt Ruthie was always so gracious, sharing and welcoming to our family and friends. We have so many good memories with Aunt Ruthie in Ohio, Delaware, and North Carolina. She was always involved and enjoying the moment on family occasions, and we all learned a good bit from her. Laura and I could not have asked for a better Aunt, and I think our mother Shirley likewise could not have asked for a better sister!

Our thoughts and prayers are with our family members, and we are eternally grateful for Aunt Ruthie's impact on all of us.

Glenn Neitz Coffee, and family Karen, Adam and Hannah

**Glenn Coffee** - March 22 at 09:52 AM

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“ Oh Ruth, words can't describe the sadness in my heart. Your Unity of Rehoboth Beach Family will miss you sooo very much. Your sense of humor lifted me every Sunday along with your amazing treats you would bake fresh for us. There will always be a place in my heart for you. Rest Dear Friend.  
Susan B.

**Susan B.** - March 22 at 09:04 AM

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“ Ruth was one of the kindest people I have ever known. I feel incredibly blessed to have called her my friend. She shared a lot of wisdom with me over the years and always had a smile to share. Her care and concern for others was genuine. I was shocked and sad to hear of her passing. Rest well, Beautiful Friend.

**Peggy Raley-Ward** - March 21 at 08:04 PM

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“ I met Ruth soon after coming to America in 1978. I don't remember a time when I saw her without a smile on her face. I specifically remember an afternoon when she, daughter Gail, and I sat in her living room, chatting. It was so pleasant. And I remember her at Tom Best's store, always the positive soul. I'm in Florida, now, but I stay in touch with Delaware through a local newspaper, and was shocked to read Ruth's obituary. If I could talk to you, now, I'd tell you how blessed I was to know you. Rest in peace, Ruth.

John Henrick - March 21 at 05:53 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth L. Fairbee.



March 21 at 05:38 PM

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“ I first met Ruth when I worked at Ace Hardware. Over the years I found out that Ruth and I love in the same complex, Hulinb Cove. We became good friends. Ruth was a wonderful and kind person. I will miss her dearly. Prayers to her dsughter.

Sharon Celli - March 21 at 08:24 AM

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“ ANNA M MAYO lit a candle in memory of Ruth L. Fairbee



ANNA M MAYO - March 20 at 07:40 PM

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“ I give my deepest sympathy to Ruth's daughter and family, I've known Ruth since her time as a pharmacy tech at Beebe hospital. Her time at Tom Best love the most, And Ruth also lived where I live, after her many years of being away from the hospital we ran into each other at Huling Cove where we both live. Ruth was a lot of fun, loved her cats

Dolores

Dolores O'Leary - March 20 at 02:40 PM



“ Sally Cohn sent a virtual gift in memory of Ruth L. Fairbee



**Sally cohn** - March 20 at 12:51 PM

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“ I got to know Ruth while working at Tom Best ,and we keep in touch even after I left there  
Ruthie we are going to miss you  
Vicki & Charlie WILLIAMS

**Charles Williams** - March 20 at 11:16 AM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ruth L. Fairbee.



March 19 at 11:30 AM

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“ Tibor & Wanda Santa purchased the Peace Eternal Wreath for the family of Ruth L. Fairbee.



**Tibor & Wanda Santa** - March 19 at 10:37 AM