



Barbara Cowles Walsh Sawyer

October 26, 1922 - December 22, 2006

Barbara Cowles Walsh Sawyer, 84, of Newington, died Friday December 22, 2006 at Jerome Home. She was the widow of William J. Walsh who died in 1962 and was also predeceased by her second husband Joseph C.E. Sawyer who died in 1985. Born in New Britain, she lived in Newington, moving to Ft. Myers, Florida for 27 years, before recently returning to Newington. A graduate of New Britain High School, Class of 1941, as a teenager she worked at the former Rogers Coffee Shop on West Main Street in downtown New Britain. She served as a WAVE in the US Navy during World War II and later worked at New Britain Machine Company. Barbara worked at the Newington branch of the former American Savings Bank for 15 years, retiring in 1979. She was an active member and volunteer at the Lee Memorial Hospital in Ft. Myers, Fl; was former president of the Junior Woman's Club of Connecticut; and was also formerly active at the church of the Holy Spirit in Newington. An avid knitter, she was known for donating most of her work.

Surviving are two children, Sara Ann Hewson and her husband Dana of Pawcatuck, CT; and Stephen Walsh and his wife Jane of Eugene, Oregon; three step children, Joyce Anderson and her husband Glenn of New Britain; Diane Pure and her husband Robert of Maui, HI; Karen Helms and her husband Kelly of Great Falls, MT; eight grandchildren, Will and Emma Hewson; David and Stephanie Pure; Gregg and Kevin Anderson; Daniel and Alicia Helms. She was predeceased by a son, Michael R. Walsh.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated Thursday 11 AM at Church of the Holy Spirit, 183 Church Street, Newington. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Auxiliary of the Lee Memorial Hospital, 2776 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers, Fl 33901. The Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting the family with arrangements. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by clicking on "GUESTBOOK" at the bottom of this page.

Tribute Wall

JO

“ I had the honor and privilege to work with Barbara and her late husband, Joe, for many years as administrative liaison to the Lee Memorial Hospital Auxiliary. Barbara set the gold standard for her service, dedication and commitment to the Auxiliary and the thousands of hours she gave to this wonderful organization. At a time of need, she stepped into the challenging position of president and was a strong voice and leader for the Auxiliary over many, many years. I will miss Barbara, as will many others here in Fort Myers. Your mother and friend was truly a remarkable, sacrificing woman, who gave so much to others in need of her service and friendship. My condolences to her family and friends, and I will always remember Barbara's smile and humor.

Jon - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

“ A tribute to Barbara from her friends and fellow Auxilians of Lee Memorial Health System in Fort Myers Florida.

Barbara moved to Fort Myers with her husband, Joseph "Ed," in 1977 and began volunteering at Lee Memorial Hospital shortly thereafter. Barbara was "spunky" and outspoken, but had a heart of gold and helped out wherever she was needed. Among her many volunteer duties were delivering flowers to patients, knitting baby caps and afghans, and working at the Information Desk in the main lobby and in ICU. Her longest running volunteer job was working at the 2nd floor Surgery Information Desk, where she cared for patients' family members and kept them informed about their loved ones' surgeries. Barbara is fondly remembered by the surgery staff for her favorite saying, "Righto!"

A fond memory of Barbara's was back in 1978 when she and Ed were in charge of the car raffle that benefited the Auxiliary. They sold raffle tickets on the new Ford for six months. According to Barbara, that was one way to meet everyone in the Auxiliary. She must have succeeded because in 1982-83, she served as Auxiliary President.

Over the twenty-eight years that Barbara was a member of the Lee Memorial Auxiliary, she contributed over 21,000 hours as a volunteer.

Barbara will always be remembered by us for her loving, caring spirit and her dedication to the Lee Memorial Auxiliary.

With deepest sympathy,

*Donna Bradish, Director
Volunteer Resources
Lee Memorial Health System*

Donna Bradish - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Barbara Sawyer was a truly beautiful woman. She will be sorely missed. She brought much happiness to so many others. My children and I remember fondly, and use to this day, the personalized Christmas stockings that she made for them. She had a warm laugh and liked to call folks "Dear". I also remember one of her favorite chicken barbeque recipes that she made for our family back when she and her husband, Ed Sawyer, lived in Meriden, CT. She made a most delicious sauce with peanut butter and jelly! It was amazing!. She leaves a fine legacy of family and friends, especially her 2 daughters and their families in CT, Sara and Joyce. Their husbands, Dana and Glenn and their children, Will, Emma, Gregg and Kevin were loving and supportive and appreciated by Barbara. She will be deeply missed by all. With our love and deepest sympathy to all of the Walsh and Sawyer families.....Joni , Joe, Brian and Kristen.

Joni Anderson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Steve and family - so sorry to hear about your mom and hope that your happy memories of her will help sustain you through this difficult time.

DeeDee Scholnick - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ My friend Rogers' sister was my friend as well. Her melodic, heart felt laugh will always enchant me, and memories of how neat she was and so great to be with, will never leave me.

Bob Rackliffe - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM