



# Norma Jean Yearley

JUL 14, 1920 - NOV 11, 2024



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## Norma Yearley Obituary

Norma Jean (nee Van Keuren) Yearley, 104, of Elyria, Ohio, left this world, November 11, 2024, as a beloved matriarch, leaving behind a legacy of love, faith, and resilience that spanned more than a century. Born July 14, 1920, in Elyria to Harry "Peter" and Lucille Van Keuren, Norma devoted her life to the Elyria community, where her roots ran deep and her impact reached far and wide. Named Norma Jean after the delivery doctor, Norm, and his wife, Jean, she would go on to live a life of remarkable warmth, resilience, and devotion to family. Norma spent her entire life in Elyria, deeply connected to the community she loved, and remained a proud lifelong member of the United Methodist Church.

Norma graduated from Elyria High School in 1938, beginning a family tradition that would carry on with each of her seven children as they, too, graduated from EHS. She married her beloved "roller-skating sweetie," Harry Yearley, September 20, 1940, in the United Methodist Church, where their love and commitment flourished. Together, they created a home filled with faith, laughter, and unwavering dedication to each other and their children.

Norma was a true adventurer at heart, treasuring the times she spent traveling across the United States with her family. She loved camping and embraced the joys of exploration and nature with those closest to her. A woman of community spirit, Norma was a member of the American Legion, a part of the Jolly 60's, and a volunteer with RSVP St. Mary's Travelers, always giving back to those around her.

Her legacy of service extended to her work as a nurse, having graduated from Lorain County Community College nursing program and served many years at Allen Hospital in Oberlin. Despite her career achievements, her greatest joy remained her family, which grew to include seven children and their spouses— Dennis (Sharon), Barbara (Denny), Susan (Tom), Craig (Barbara), Norma Jean (Mike), Nancy (Bill) and Amy. Her life was further enriched by 13



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grandchildren— Shelley, Tom, Steve, Terri, Jill, Mark, Tom, Heather, Eric, Jay, Elizabeth, Brad and Rachel. God blessed her with the opportunity to see her 26 great-grandchildren thrive: Jack, Max, Caden, Sarah, Rebekah, Caleb, Jake, Sean, Tara, Shane, Jason, Jonah, Jeremiah, Joshua, Jenna, Jessica, Bailey, Caroline, Grant, Leonardo, Viviana, Hunter, Marissa, Sadie Jo, Natalie, Gracie, and received God's blessing to see her one great-great-grandchild, Cameron, after he was born. She captured the beauty of her growing family in countless photos, preserving the legacy of love for generations to come.

Norma always credited her long life to the blessing of her "wonderful, loving, caring family," and she had an extraordinary memory, able to recall life's cherished moments until her final days. Her steadfast commitment to family and community will be missed by all who were fortunate to know her. As she often said, "My family was my life, and my life was my family."

In honor of her legacy and in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Buckeye High School Soccer, 3084 Columbia Rd. Medina, Ohio, celebrating Norma's dedication to family, faith and community.

A family service will be held at Dicken Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 323 Middle Avenue, Elyria. Norma will be buried with her husband at Ridge Hill Memorial Park, Amherst Township.

To send flowers  
to the family or plant a tree  
in memory of Norma Jean Yearley, please visit our floral store.

[Read More](#)



## Tribute Wall

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AY

**A Memorial Tree Was Planted For Norma Jean Yearley** posted:

A Memorial Tree was planted for Norma Jean Yearley We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ the staff at Dicken Funeral Home & Cremation Service Join in honoring their life - plant a memorial tree

April 22 at 8:57 AM

DN

**Darryl & Debbie Norris** posted:

A Memorial tree was ordered in memory of Norma Jean Yearley by Darryl & Debbie Norris. Plant a Tree Denny and Sharon we are so very sorry for your loss, she was a wonderful lady and always said what was on her mind. She will be missed by everyone. Thoughts and prayers. Darryl & Debbie Norris

April 22 at 8:57 AM

TP

**Tammy Phillips** posted:

Thoughts and prayers to Amy and family.

November 13 at 5:13 PM

MB

**Marsha Bier** posted:

Norma I remember your mom like it was yesterday. Such a long life and marvelous things she did. I miss you.

November 13 at 11:43 AM

JH

**Jerry Henson** posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you for the best of everything. God bless. NOTES: I grew up with your cousin -- Bob Hutchison -- in North Ridgeville. One of my cousins -- Marian Cheesman -- graduated from Elyria High School with Dennis Yearley in 1960. I'll stop for now but I'm sure that there are many other memories of our families knowing each other for several years.

November 13 at 11:42 AM



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TK

**Tania Kegyes** posted:

Dear Denny, Sharon and all of Norma Jean's family, your mom was such an inspiration. I see how she blessed you with many of her awesome traits. My condolences, hugs and prayers to you all! Cherish her memories!

November 13 at 9:51 AM

DG

**Denise Henke & Debbie Green** posted:

Love from the Henke/Greens! What an incredible life and legacy!!! XO Love, #3 and #4 on the Henke side. Denise Henke & Debbie Green

November 13 at 4:49 AM

RP

**Ronald, Jan Parker** posted:

Craig and Barbara, sorry for your lost ,you're blessed to have enjoyed so many years with your mom.youre in our prayers.Ronald,Jan Parker

November 12 at 4:49 PM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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