



Jean E. Pelen

Jean E. Pelen, 77, of Columbia PA, went home to be with her Lord on Tuesday evening at the Susquehanna Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center after a brief illness. She was the wife of the late Samuel T. Pelen, Sr., who preceded her in death in 1980.

A lifelong Columbia resident, she was the daughter of the late Harry and Cora Swarmer Fuhrman. A nurse for over 47 years, Jean was a mainstay at the former Columbia Hospital until its closing. During her years at Columbia Hospital, she was best known in the community for her service as a maternity nurse.

After retirement, Jean continued to serve her community working with the Meals on Wheels Program sponsored by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Columbia, where she was a lifelong member. She was a graduate of Marietta High School Class of 1949 and was a graduate from the St. Joseph's Nursing Academy in 1950.

She is survived by her sons, Samuel "Ted" Pelen, Jr. and his wife Patty of Niceville, FL; and Jeffrey H. Pelen, Sr. and his wife Debbie of Columbia. Also surviving are three grandchildren, Jeffrey H. Pelen, Jr.; Erin wife of Andrew Koch; and Aarne Moore; and a great-grandson, Gavin Pelen. A sister, Helen Fuhrman, preceded her in death.

A celebration of Jean's life will be held from St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sixth and Locust Streets, Columbia, PA, on Saturday at 10:30 AM with the Rev. Richard E. Geib officiating. Interment in Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens. There will be no public viewing; however, the family will receive friends at the church on Saturday one hour prior to the service. Kindly omit flowers. Contributions to the Columbia Meals on Wheels, PO Box 391, Columbia, PA 17512, or to Hospice of Lancaster County, PO Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604-4125 in Jean's memory would be deeply appreciated.

Arrangements by the Clyde W. Kraft Funeral Home, Inc., Columbia/Landisville.