



## Ms. Barbara A. Beeker

December 23, 1935 - September 24, 2022

Ms. Barbara A. Beeker, of Pittsfield, passed away on Saturday, September 24, 2022, just three months shy of celebrating her 87th birthday. Born in Pittsfield, MA, on December 23, 1935, the daughter the late Marion Hopper Beeker, she graduated in 1953 from St. Joseph High School in Pittsfield and later from St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing in New York with the class of 1956. Barbara continued her education, earning a bachelor's degree, also in Nursing, from Hunter College, a Master of Education from Columbia University, and later, a Doctorate in Education from there as well.

In 1962, Barbara began her career as a coordinator of the Practical Nurse Program for Pittsfield Vocational School. In the summer of 1965, she traveled to Guyana, where she worked as a consultant for the Pan American Health Organization. Returning from South America, Barbara took a new position as an assistant, and (soon-to-follow), associate professor at Russell Sage in New York. In 1977, she left New York and began work in Vermont, where she worked as not only a professor, but also chairperson for the Department of Professional Nursing at the University of Vermont. In 1987, further adding to her accomplished career, Barbara started as Dean and Professor of Seton Hall University in NJ, from where she respectfully retired in 1999.

After retirement, Barbara returned home to Pittsfield, MA, where she was able to reconnect with many old friends and made many new, as well. Barbara

enjoyed gardening and was also thoroughly fond of traveling. She visited every continent (some numerous times), with the exception of Antarctica.

Barbara is survived by her brother, George Beeker (Roberta), as well as several cousins.

Barbara's family would like to extend a sincere thank you to the staff at Melbourne Place and Springside Nursing Home for their outstanding care throughout this time. Her family would also like to offer their sincere gratitude to Barbara's friends--Pat, Fran, and Betty--for all their love and support.

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Ms. Barbara A. Beeker will be Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 12 noon at the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North Street, Pittsfield, MA, 01201, with the Rev. A. Peter Gregory, Pastor Emeritus of St. Charles Church, officiating. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery. There will be an hour of visitation at the funeral home prior to the service, from 11 am to 12 noon. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to a charity of your choice.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Cemetery

222 Peck's Rd.  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **29**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home  
776 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 442-5094  
info@dwyerfuneral.com  
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

## Service

SEP **29**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer Family Funeral Home  
776 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 442-5094  
info@dwyerfuneral.com  
<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara was a wonderful friend who would do anything for you. I treasure the great times we shared walking in the mall three times a week where we shared many happy nursing memories and Barbara shared her experiences as a nursing leader in Nursing Education. There were also many dinners together with friends, working in the Shine Program and other happy social times. She treasured her brother and sister in law George and Roberta for all they did for her whenever she needed help especially the last few years. I miss my friend and will keep in my prayers as she rests in peace.*

*Fran Feldsine*

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**Frances Feldsine** - September 28, 2022 at 03:30 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms. Barbara A. Beeker.*



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September 28, 2022 at 01:15 PM



“ 37 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Dwyer Funeral Home Inc.** - September 27, 2022 at 09:15 AM

EK

“ *What a wonderful friend! I was so fortunate to share many happy moments with Barbara and our other close knit group. She made important contributions to nursing and patient care throughout the world. Lots of dinners, lots of laughs, lots of fun times. Roberta and George thank you for so lovingly caring for Barbara these past years. She loved you both very much and knew she could count on you. We will all miss her. Barb, until we meet again! Betty*

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**Elizabeth Kirby** - September 26, 2022 at 05:20 PM