

Personal Obituary

Patricia Ann (Zirkelbach) Goetz

07-26-1923 to 11-20-2017

By her brother

Harry Zirkelbach on 11-27-2017

Harry and Patricia Ann (Patsy) Zirkelbach, the only two children of Harry and Josephine Zirkelbach. Both were born in Freedom Pennsylvania. They would later move up-river a few miles, first to New Brighton, then Marion Hills, until the summer of 1932 when the family moved to Erie, Pennsylvania, the victims of the Great Depression.

Separated by seventeen months, they were more like twins, she the creative, he the mischievous. They attended St Josephs School in New Brighton, then St Anns and St Johns (the Baptist) in Erie. In High School he would attend the all boys school Prep, she the all girls school St Benedicts, both in Erie.

Pasty would marry a grade school classmate and neighbor, Harold Goetz in 1944. When he later returned from the Pacific duty on the Cruiser Columbia, to the Navy facility at Bremerton Washington, she would move there. They remained there until his discharge at war's end.

They returned to Erie, set up house on W 31st Avenue.

Moving twice subsequently, finally to North East Pa, they would be within a decent range of where they had schooled together.

Harold and Patricia raised nine children, all surviving.

Harold's step father Fred Goetz, Harold, and Harold's son William have achieved something no other will be able to accomplish in the future, They all had one commercial employer, (and retired there). This, the General Electric Works in Erie.

On completing High School in 1941, Past was employed by the Pennsylvania Rail Road in the Erie Depot, as salesperson for tickets.

In 1944 while her brother was stationed at Fort Schuyler in the Bronx, New York City. she and a friend visited New York City. On that weekend joined her brother and a Navy friend, where the four took in the 'big city' lights, including a Billy Rose stage play with Joan Blondell as the featured star. Another memory, riding the elevator to the top of the Empire State building, walking the four sides, seeing a whole world, normally only visible to aviation, the four corners of New York State,

When their children finished school, Harold and Pat loved to summer for a week at a large rental home, often on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. On a number of years, they invited Harry and Barbara as guests, making new friendship with the children, renewing those of the older generation.

East of North East, in the woods 60 miles away, Harold obtained a "cabin" where he and his boys could fish and rough it. They were also engaged in modernizing this building with the conveniences of home, so that an individual family might spend a weekend together without bothering the fish.

Both Hold and Pat were blessed with good health throughout their days, as is the case with their nine children, all surviving father and mother.

At the tombstone at the North East Cemetery where both are buried, the grave marker is a granite slab of a foot. width. Across the top, is engraved the names of their nine children.

Proud of them in eternity.