



Richard “Dick” Gephart

(March 16, 1933 – January 17, 2021)

Carol D. (Johnson) Gephart

(December 13, 1933 – March 7, 2023)

Relationship to St. Andrew United Methodist Church:

They were good friends of the church. They were the parents of church members Pam Robertson and Nancy Chapman.

Family:

Daughters: Pam (Tom) Robertson and Nancy (John) Chapman

Sons: David (Kay) Gephart, Dan (Linda) Gephart

Grandchildren: John Robertson, Kelli Bowen, Jay and Scott Chapman, Brad Gephart, Suzanne Cox, Lauren Gephart

Greatgrandchildren: Tanner and AJ Robertson and Fletcher and Palmer Bowen, Cara, Kendall and Annabelle Gephart, Molly and Tyler Cox

Recognitions, Activities/Special Interests:

Dick spent two years in the US Army and then returned home to the family farm south of Otterbein. Dick and Carol were high school classmates and married in 1953. They enjoyed 68 years of marriage and had a long and successful life as a farm couple. In their family hard work was balanced with love, laughter, and good times.

Dick was a lifelong farmer in Benton County and Warren counties. Carol attended Home Hospital School of Nursng and was a busy farm wife. They raised their four children in the Armstrong United Methodist Church where Carol was a caring Sunday school teacher and Bible School leader. After retiring, Dick and Carol moved to West Lafayette and attended St. Andrew. They later became members of the Otterbein United Methodist Church. Dick helped with the making of the St. Andrew elementary playground. Carol enjoyed working on the Tippecanoe Country Election Board during elections.

Both Dick and Carol loved to travel. They boated with family and friends on Lake Cumberland and enjoyed Florida sunshine in the winter, especially with friends and family.

Use of Funds:

Dick: A park bench has been placed under a shade tree in a landscaped area near the picnic table and basketball goal.

Carol: Funds will be used in the nursery program since Carol dearly loved babies and enjoyed helping with Bible School in the nursery.



Obituary: (from Journal and Courier)



Richard "Dick" Gephart
1933-2021

West Lafayette - Richard "Dick" Gephart, 87, of West Lafayette, IN, passed away peacefully on January 17, 2021. Dick was born March 16, 1933, in Lafayette, IN to the late Oscar "Bob" & Dorothy (Follick) Gephart. They lived on a farm near Otterbein. Dick & his brother, Joe, learned to work hard by helping their dad on the farm. The family worshipped at the neighborhood church, Armstrong Chapel United Methodist Church, where they were life-long members.

Dick was a graduate of Otterbein High School, Class of 1951. He was drafted into the Army in June 1953. Before entering the Army, he married Carol Johnson at the Oxford United Methodist Church on May 10, 1953; she survives. They were married for over 67 years.

After a two-year term in the Army, Dick & Carol returned home to the family farm in rural Otterbein where they made a life of farming. They had four children, Pam (Tom) Robertson, David (Kay) Gephart, Nancy (John) Chapman & Dan (Linda) Gephart. Dick loved each of his children dearly & was very proud that they all graduated from Purdue University. In their family, hard work was balanced with love & good times. Dick especially loved sharing stories with his grandchildren & great-grandchildren. He will be missed by John (Nancy) Robertson, Kelli (Kyle) Bowen, Brad Gephart (Brooke Wallpe), Suzanne (Joe) Cox, Lauren Gephart (fiancé Dominick Rund), Jay Chapman (Meredith Marley) & Scott Chapman. Dick beamed with pride when talking about his great-grandchildren, Tanner & AJ Robertson, Fletcher & Palmer Bowen, Cara, Kendall & Annabelle Gephart, Molly & Tyler Cox, his brother Joe (Elaine) Gephart & their daughters, Sue Ellen (Chris) Chopp & Sally (Greg) Mann & their children; Caroline & Joe Chopp, Jake & Luke Mann.

Dick was a successful farmer in Benton & Warren counties. In February of 1960, he completed the Purdue School of Agriculture Winter Short-Course in General Agriculture. Dick loved the Lord, his family, his country & the farm. Dick & Carol raised their family as members of the Armstrong Church. Dick worked on many projects with the church men to improve the church. His camaraderie with the church men was important to him. In retirement, Dick & Carol became members of the Otterbein United Methodist Church.

Dick was pleased to be chosen for the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. in September 2014. It allowed him a chance to relive his service to his country & be recognized for serving.

Dick was a storyteller. He loved a table filled with family and friends, and he never missed a chance to entertain his audience including his 1951 fellow Otterbein graduates. From the euchre table to the dinner table, Dick was quick with a story, joke & smile. Dick & Carol enjoyed boating with family and friends, in Kentucky, on Lake Cumberland. They also spent many winters in Florida & especially loved being at Disney World.

A private family funeral service will be, Saturday, January 30 at 1:30 PM at the Otterbein United Methodist Church, Reverend Ben Cassiday officiating. The service will be live streamed on the church's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/oumcchurch) for those who wish to attend virtually. Burial will follow at the Armstrong Chapel Cemetery with military rites. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be given to Otterbein

United Methodist Church, 405 E. Oxford Street, Otterbein, IN 47970 or Armstrong Chapel Cemetery Association, 8846 N. State Rd 55, Pine Village, IN 47975. Shoemaker Funeral Home, Otterbein, is assisting Dick's Family. Visit Shoemaker Funeral Home-Otterbein, Indiana Facebook page or www.shoemakerfh.com to leave any condolences or to share a memory of Dick. When it is safe to gather, there will be a wonderful celebration of Dick's life complete with lots of stories & pie.

Obituary

Carol D. (Johnson) Gephart **1933-2023**



Carol D. (Johnson) Gephart, 89, of West Lafayette, IN, passed away peacefully on March 7, 2023. Carol was born on December 19, 1933, in Lafayette, IN to the late Frank A. and Velma E. (Wolf) Johnson. Carol was the oldest of five children that included her sister Mary and three brothers Larry, Garry, and Robert. The Johnson family resided on a farm near Oxford.

Carol graduated from Otterbein High School in 1951. She attended Home Hospital School of Nursing. She married her high school classmate, Richard L. (Dick) Gephart on May 10, 1953 at the Oxford Methodist Church. When Dick finished a two-year stint in the US Army, they returned to the family farm five miles south of Otterbein and had a long and successful life as a farm couple. They enjoyed 68 years of marriage until Dick's death on January 17, 2021. They raised four children: Pam (Tom) Robertson, David (Kay) Gephart, Nancy (John) Chapman, and Dan (Linda) Gephart. In their family, hard work was balanced with love, laughter, and good times.

Carol was a busy farm wife. She would stop what she was doing without complaint to answer Dick's request to drive a tractor, get parts, or bring dinner to the field. She would get kids ready for school, cook a chicken dinner, and bake a pie all while anticipating hauling a load of grain from the field. She was the last one to bed at night, making sure the family was ready for the next day's plans. Her mother's love radiated,

raising their children on the farm, then helping raise generations of Gephart babies that followed with a grandmother's love.

Carol and Dick raised their family in the Armstrong United Methodist Church. Carol was a caring Sunday school teacher and bible school leader. Armstrong Church friends were a great source of joy for them. In retirement, Carol and Dick resided in West Lafayette. They attended St. Andrew United Methodist Church and later became members of the Otterbein United Methodist Church. Carol also enjoyed working on the Tippecanoe County Election Board during elections. Carol and Dick loved to travel. They boated with family and friends on Lake Cumberland. During the winter they enjoyed Florida sunshine, friends, a game of cards, fresh strawberries, and Disney World. Carol liked crocheting, bird watching, bowling, quilting & visiting the farm. Mainly, she loved being wherever Dick wanted to go, usually finding a place with a really good meal and a great piece of pie.

Carol will be missed by grandchildren: John (Nancy) Robertson, Kelli (Kyle) Bowen, Brad (Brooke) Gephart, Suzanne (Joe) Cox, Lauren (Dominick) Rund, Jay Chapman (Fiancé, Meredith Marley), and Scott Chapman. Carol was blessed with great-grandchildren: Tanner and AJ Robertson, Fletcher and Palmer Bowen, Cara, Kendall and Annabelle Gephart, and Molly and Tyler Cox. Carol is also survived by her brother Robert, sisters-in-law, June Johnson, and Janet Perkins Johnson, brother in-law Joe Gephart, and many nieces and nephews. Her friends from the Otterbein class of 1951, as well as her church friends, neighbors, and special care givers, Chris, Tabby, and Natalie were near and dear to her. Carol is preceded in death by her husband, Dick, sister, Mary Eberle, brothers, Larry and Garry Johnson, sisters-in-law, Nancy Johnson, Janet Johnson, Elaine Gephart, and brother-in-law, John Eberle.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 11, 2023, at St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 4703 N. 50 W. West Lafayette, IN, from 11:00 AM until time of Celebration of Life at 1:00 PM, with Pastor Ben Cassiday officiating. Burial will follow at the Armstrong Chapel Cemetery. Shoemaker Funeral Home, Otterbein, is assisting Carol's Family. Visit Shoemaker Funeral Home- Otterbein, Indiana Facebook page or www.shoemakerfh.com to leave any condolences or to share a memory of Carol. Memorials may be made to Armstrong Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 446, Otterbein, IN 47970, Otterbein United Methodist Church, 405 E. Oxford St. Otterbein, IN 47970 or St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 4703 N. 50 W., West Lafayette, IN 47906.

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