

To the Remarkable Schürch Family:

It's been 4 years since we were able to commit to a reunion date but at last the darkness of covid 19 seems to be clearing. The light is shining, and we will see you at Crystal Beach, Ontario on August 4, 5, 6, and 7, 2022. You will be entertained, educated, mystified and in the end, you will be proud to be a Schürch. Details are presented in this newsletter and online at www.schurchfamilyassociation.net.

The Y-DNA project has been re-commissioned, headed by Alan Leis as administrator along with Justin Houser as co-administrator. Contact Alan at alanleis1@gmail.com to have your Schürch genes tested

Have you seen any of the Schürch symposia on Zoom? They are a significant step forward in our mission to present the Schürch story to our family and others. The best part is that the symposia are recorded and linked to our website (www.schurchfamilyassociation.net) where they can be watched anytime. Doug Sherk and his team, Ray Shirk, Cary Adams, Stephen Shirk and Jane Sherk have made 3 presentations so far. More symposia are in the works and eventually a compelling array of Schürch history and genealogy topics will be online.

We have re-started the Lost Years search with a project: **Schürch Anabaptist Migration Through Holland in the 1700's**. We were fortunate to find a competent researcher, Lydia Penner, with exceptional translation skills, who will search historical Mennonite and other archives. We already have documents relating to Casper Schürch, Code H, and Ulrich Schürch, Code E, as they traveled through Holland 300 years ago.

I must once again commend the volunteer Executive Committee, Historians and Database Committee for the enormous time they spend to maintain and present your Schürch stories and history.

To my fellow cousins, till we meet again, stay safe and stay in the light.

Tom Shirk E43550121

Schürch Anabaptist Migration Through Holland Proposal

By Tom Shirk

Background: A few years ago, Joe Sherk reported on a 1700-page book, Documents of Brotherly Love, Dutch Mennonite Aid to Swiss Anabaptists, Volume II, 1710-1711. It was a previously unpublished compendium of 206 articles located in the Stadsarchief (State Archive) Amsterdam, stored for over 300 years, and now translated into English from the original Dutch and German languages. It traced the expulsion of Anabaptist families in four boats down the Rhine River from Bern, Switzerland to Amsterdam in 1711. It was astonishing to learn that Code E, Ulrich Schürch and his family were on the boat, Emmental, when it arrived in Amsterdam. Previously it was believed that they left the boat in Mannheim Germany. They eventually resettled in Harlingen, Netherlands. Another document from 1731, located in the Amsterdam Archives described Code H, Casper Schurger (Schürch) and wife and child who were given aid as they passed through Amsterdam on their way to North America.

Clearly, there is considerable historic information about Schürch passages through Holland. Code C, Joseph Schurgh, Code N, Ulrich Scherch, and other family codes would come from Switzerland or Alsace or Palatinate through Amsterdam as they wound their way to Philadelphia. Recent communication with Hanspeter Jecker, President of the Swiss Association of Anabaptist History and Mechteld Gravendeel, Secretary, Dutch Mennonite Society, brought forth the information about a 1993 research article by Piet Visser, Amischen in Nederland, describing the arrival of Anabaptist families into Holland in 1711 that specifically mentions Ulrich Schur (Schürch). This should be translated. Other historical archives should be researched.

Proposal: The Schürch Family Association of North America proposes to initiate a 'Lost Years Research Project' to determine the whereabouts and locations of Schürch Anabaptists in Holland, in the period 1700 to 1800, as they migrated through Holland. The budget for this endeavor will be \$2500 and the research will be conducted by Lydia Penner.

Lydia Penner: She was brought up in Canada but has lived in the Netherlands for 40 years. She has been pastor of several Mennonite congregations in the Netherlands (Joure, the Hague, and Haarlem). She is fluent in Dutch and German. Notably, she was the

translator of Dutch documents for the book Documents of Brotherly Love, Volume II, and is both translator and editor of DBL, Volume III, and is therefore knowledgeable about the Swiss Anabaptist migration to the Netherlands in the 1700s. She will reach out to the various references such as Visser's, "Amischen in Nederland", the Archives at Tresoar, sources at the Dutch Mennonite Society, and the City Archives in Amsterdam.

Budget: The \$2500 budget should allow for translation of the Visser article, possible travel to Harlingen to search archived records there, and time to search records in the Amsterdam region. We propose to fund this endeavor by reaching out to our Schürch family, asking for donations of \$25 to \$100. Please make out your check to The Schürch Family Association and mail to Jack Sherrick, 18 N Pine St. Apt 2, Lancaster, Pa 17603, or Laurine Mills, 1750 Killaly St East, Port Colborne, ON, Canada L3K 5V3. Put 'Lost Years Project, Holland Research' on the memo line.

In the event we are oversubscribed we would add the oversubscription amounts to our general treasury. We will conduct a quality professional research program to elucidate new Schürch historical information, but there is no guarantee. Any new data and information relating to this project will be published in the newsletter on a timely basis.



**Lost Years: Dutch Connections Research
Donations Accepted - payable to SFANA**

Canadian Treasurer
Laurine Mills
1750 Killaly Street East
Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada
L3K 5V3
estherlmills@aol.com

U.S. Treasurer
Jack Sherick
18 North Pine Street
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
17603
sci5teach322@yahoo.com

New flickr.com photo addition

Compliments of Vanessa Warner



E81512 Joseph Acker Shirk Family

Photo taken following the funeral of Joseph Acker Shirk, Feb 1903

Back Row L to R E815120 Harry Shirk, E815128 Kate Shirk (Williams),
E815125 Charles Henry Shirk, E815127 Laura Shirk (Weininger), E815124
George Washington Shirk, E815129 Mamie Shirk (Price)

Front Row L to R E815122 Alice Shirk (Updegraff), E815123 Shannon King
Shirk, Sarah Ann Arentz, widow of Joseph Acker Shirk, E815121 William Henry
Shirk, E815126 Sarah "Sallie" Shirk (Puckett)

Cheesy Amish Breakfast Casserole

From allrecipes.com



Ingredients

- 1 pound sliced bacon, diced
- 1 sweet onion, chopped
- 4 cups frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, thawed
- 9 eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1½ cups small curd cottage cheese
- 1¼ cups shredded Swiss cheese

Directions

Step 1: Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Step 2: Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat; cook and stir bacon and onion until bacon is evenly browned, about 10 minutes. Drain. Transfer bacon and onion to a large bowl. Stir in potatoes, eggs, Cheddar cheese, cottage cheese, and Swiss cheese. Pour mixture into prepared baking dish.

Step 3: Bake in preheated oven until eggs are set and cheese is melted, 45 to 50 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before cutting and serving.

Nutrition Facts

Per Serving: 314 calories; protein 21.7g; carbohydrates 12.1g; fat 22.8g; cholesterol 187.5mg; sodium 608.7mg.

New or Renewing Subscribers

Adam Weaver, Fleetwood, Pennsylvania

Rev. Everett Curry, McMinnville, Oregon

Robert Scherich, West Finley, Pennsylvania

Wendy Brooker, Birdsboro, Pennsylvania

Kathleen Shannon, Spring Valley, California

Hallie Forcino, Cleveland, Ohio

Eric Schurch, Brecksville, Ohio

Robert Burke, Indian Land South Carolina

Kathy and Stephen Sherick, Lititz Pennsylvania

Mark D Shirk, Versailles, Missouri

Rena Kyle, Beaverlodge, Alberta

Brenda Chisholm, Oakville, Ontario

Jennifer Shirk Warner, East Amherst, New York

Paul Shirk, Brooklyn, New York

Lisa Carriere, Ramsey, Minnesota

Bits and Pieces of the Schürch Surname

*In her 1991 book, Looking in on the Sherrick Family, Frances V. Gross writes the story of her father Harold Frances (Sherk) Sherrick b. March 31, 1887, Code H421811, and her mother Fannie Frewing. Harold's father Asaph Sherk H42181 married Elizabeth Shirk from Markham, Ontario. Frances Gross describes the change of name from Sherk to Sherrick in this way:
From Margaret Sherk*

“The eldest of ten children, Harold did not always get along with his father who was a stern, often harsh man. Harold had a sunny disposition and a sense of humor without measure. It was this sense of humor that created the problems since his father was sure that it was an indication of irresponsibility.” (p. 3-4).

“They often had words about it. While we never knew the reason for the terrible

argument between the two of them, we know that immediately after the argument, my Dad went to the City Hall in Toronto and had his surname legally changed from “Sherk” to Sherrick.” He was only about seventeen at the time, but full of determination. He loved his dad and forgave him; but nothing, no one, ever could convince him to reverse the name change. Further, no one could ever get him to discuss the reason for the change. Nevertheless, he was such a kind, loving and generous man that he made the name “Sherrick” one of which we can all be proud” (p. 17-18).

Along with genealogy and many photographs, this 160 page book is a beautiful narrative of family, friendship, and the challenges of life, including Harold's time serving in WWI.

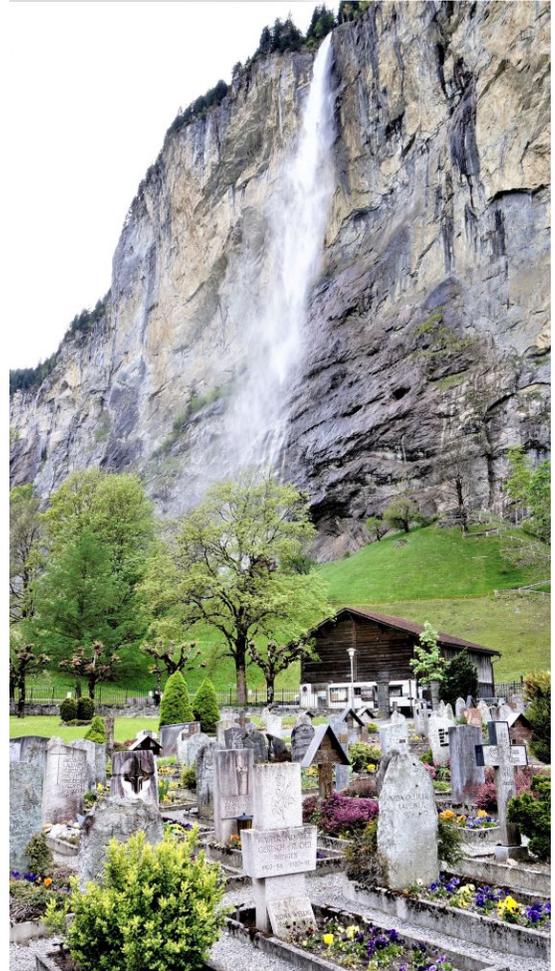


Congratulations are in order for N13E2611 Dr. Meredith Bacola, on her marriage to Karampaul Singh Sandhu on March 18 & 19, 2022 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The pair were first married on March 18 at the South Winnipeg Sikh Temple and again on March 19 at the Assiniboine Park Conservation Area. The happy couple have waited two years for COVID restrictions to lessen and we wish them a long, healthy and happy married life.



Friedhof Lauterbrunnen

Arguably the most beautiful cemetery in the world
from findagrave.com



Friedhof Lauterbrunnen, the village cemetery, is located near the highest waterfall in Switzerland, Mürrenbach Fall, cascading 1,638 feet off the cliffside. The Lauterbrunnen Valley is described as stunning, picturesque, and one of the most beautiful settings on earth. The 2019 Heritage Tour passed through this valley when traveling to Wengen, Switzerland.

1950 U.S. Census Released

Officially released on April 1,
2022, the 1950 U.S. Census can
be searched through the U.S.
Archives

<https://1950census.archives.gov>

Schürch Short

from Don and Jo-Ann Shirk

Shooting in Switzerland
The Daily Show

1e5664dd-4d6d-49e3-b36c-ffe0692aa688.MP4



New Shirk Photo



Emma S. Shirk
1872-1872
E16427, E16537

Edward Lincoln Laver
1863-1941

Now Available: Index and Addendum to Thomas A. Sherk's "The Sherk Family"

Thomas A. Sherk's book, "*The Sherk Family*", published by Gateway Press in 1982, has been the primary sourcebook for the genealogical study of **Schürchs** in North America.

The original concept for the creation of an index for **Tom's** book was proposed in the November 1983 Newsletter for discussion at the 1984 Family Reunion. The author felt that "an index would greatly expand the usefulness of this volume".

The index for this book was created in 2000 by **Jean Sherk**, now **Jean Brunk (Martha Jean Kritzer)**. This 86-page index includes all bold face names and any alternate spellings or other names those persons might have been known by. Not included are the names of partners who were not **Sherk** descendants.

Jean Brunk has enthusiastically agreed to a reprint of her index. It has been scanned by the **Schürch** Association Publications Committee and a brief addendum included to provide a minor clarification of **Code C Joseph Schürch** on page 270-271, and a change to page 274 Code E1 Peter Scherch (Sherck).

The index with addendum is available electronically for free and in printed hard copies for the cost of printing and mailing. Please contact **Margaret Sherk**, 6882 First Line W., Elora, ON N0B 1S0 Phone 519-846-5197 or e-mail: margaretsherk1@outlook.com. Hard copies of the index will be available at the August 2022 reunion.

Anyone with **Tom Sherk's** book will find this index an important tool.

Schürch

From the February 24 Schürch Symposium, *Schürch 102: Crossing America*. The video will be online by May 15. Watch it for more about these notable Schürchs.

Last Name	First Name	Area	Birth	Death	Code
Adams	Carlton	Business	1916	1999	E1420634
Butler	Lawson David	Law	1917	2001	H053231
Erb	Abraham	Business	1772	1830	C39
Fitzwater	Max Marlin	Politics	1942		H01433221
Mullenger	Donna Belle	Entertainment	1921	1986	N1A41421
Neff	Benton	Business	1863		E141356
Ravenscroft	Thurl	Entertainment	1914	2005	E4365331
Sampson	Joanna	Sports	1992		E41251412122
Scherzer	Max	Sports	1984		E8I628823I
Schirch	Lisa	Social Justice			Uncoded of 1892
Schirch	Verne	Education	1936		Uncoded of 1892
Schurch	Donna	Literature			Immigrant of 1884
Schurch	Paul	Entertainment			
Schürch	Conrad	Science	1918	2007	Immigrant of 1872
Sherck	Isaac	Business	1848	1911	H2267
Sherick	Donald	Misc.			N1B2024
Sherick	John	Military	1787	1867	C551
Sherick	Joseph Henry	Military	1924	2015	Ancestor prior to 1833
Sherk	Adam	Medicine	1840	1907	H2616
Sherk	Adam Hull	Literature	1881	1931	H26161
Sherk	Andrew	Sports	1992		C16717121

Notables

Last Name	First Name	Area	Birth	Death	Code
Sherk	Cathy	Sports	1950		
Sherk	Frank Trysman	Business	1904	1972`	N161931
Sherk	Henry Howard	Medicine - Public Service	1865	1926	H82314
Sherk	Jerry	Sports	1948		H
Sherk	John Harold	Religion	1904	1974	H4611331
Sherk	Juliana	Entertainment	1970		N16193122
Sherk	Raymond J.F.	Military, Education	1922	2016	E148322
Sherk	Sean Keith	Sports	1973		H25307561
Sherk	Warren	Literature	1960		
Sherk	Warren Michael	Entertainment	1960		N1382114
Sherk	William "Bill"	Entertainment	1942		N1619312
Shirk	Allen Snyder	Sports	1896	1984	E165123
Shirk	Benjamin Palmer	Agriculture	1864	1915	E81361
Shirk	David	Entertainment			E1672E321
Shirk	David Lawson	Business	1844	1928	H0532
Shirk	Jake	Sports			
Shirk	Jennifer	Literature	1972		H81702511
Shirk	Joseph	Business			E61612
Shirk	Joseph Sensenig	Business	1820	1902	E1612
Shirk	Justin	Sports	1990		H844463123
Shirk	Russell Oliver	Business	1918	1999	H81704
Winter	Richard Davis "Dick"	Military	1918	2011	E412411

John S. Shirk Memorial Heritage Award Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the John S. Shirk Memorial Heritage Award to be presented at the 2022 Schürch Family Reunion in August. The award is intended to recognize the outstanding accomplishments by any Schürch descendant who contributes to, encourages, or advances our understanding of Schürch heritage; and to encourage participation in the Schürch Family Association, particularly among younger people.

The criteria for evaluating a nominee are defined broadly, but with emphasis on those areas in which John took an active interest. Accomplishment for the purposes of this award would include, but are not limited to: authoring an outstanding article for the Schürch Newsletter; publishing a genealogy or other Schürch related paper in an outside journal or magazine; presenting an outstanding talk at a reunion; making a breakthrough research finding that leads to a significant advancement in understanding of Schürch heritage; researching and documenting a Schürch family lineage; the giving of meritorious service to the Schürch Family Association; giving outstanding leadership; leading a heritage tour; promoting the association's interests; or being involved in community history.

Approval requires an affirmative vote by simple majority of the full Executive Committee. It is expected one winner will be selected before each reunion, but if circumstances warrant more than one might be approved. To be eligible one must be a Schürch descendant or spouse.

The award consists of a \$200 USD cash gift presented by the Association President at the Association Reunion. The name of the recipient and a description of the accomplishment will be included in the Newsletter and permanently maintained on the websites.

Nominations must be submitted to the Association President in writing identifying the nominee, describing his/her accomplishment and how it meets the award criteria. The deadline for consideration at the 2022 Reunion is June 15, 2022. Send to: Tom Shirk, President SFANA, 2 Riverhills Lane, Toledo OH, 43623. Tel: 419-346-1811. e-mail: tomshirk@bex.net

Schürch Symposium Series:

‘How is technology affecting conflict and peace?’

Lisa Schirch

**5 p.m. EST, Saturday, June 4, 2022
(30-45 minutes)**

Register:

Zoom Live Presentation

Synopsis: This presentation will give the audience some examples of the best and worst impacts of technology on the world today. Lisa Schirch will explain how social media works, and why it is increasing conflict and violence. She will then offer examples of how technology is helping the cause of peace.

**Watch for our next symposium featuring
Jerry Sherk in December**



Lisa Schirch is the Starmann Chair in Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame’s Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. She also directs the Social Media, Technology, and Peacebuilding program for the [Toda Peace Institute](#). A former Fulbright Fellow in East and West Africa, Schirch is the author of eleven books, including [Social Media Impacts on Conflict and Democracy: The Tech-tonic Shift](#).

The Schürch Family Association of North America (SFANA) is Looking for a President, Secretary and Symposium Committee Coordinator

The President works collaboratively with the Executive Committee and sub-Committees to expand the goals and objectives of the SFANA while strengthening existing program and research areas. In particular, the President will ensure that fiscal, operational, marketing, and technology realize the mission and vision of our organization. The primary responsibilities of the President are to lead in areas of strategic visioning, development, strengthening family historical research and reunion/heritage tour planning for our membership.

Do you know someone who could lead with a vision to strengthen our Association into its next era of research and promotion, or would you like to be considered for the position?

Quoting our Association By-Laws of November 2010: 5.1 Executive Committee: The Executive Committee of the Association shall direct

all affairs of the Association and be responsible for their oversight. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer United States, Treasurer Canada, Past Presidents, Historical Committee Chairperson, and Newsletter Editor.

Since the publication of the By-Laws we have added the positions of Lost Years Research Chair, Database Entry Committee Chair, Y-DNA Committee Chair, and Symposium Committee Coordinator.

After six long years, impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic these past three years, our President Tom Shirk will be stepping down from his position, as well our Secretary Janice Ulmer will be stepping down from her duties. We are looking for like minded individuals to take on the duties and responsibilities of President and Secretary for our Association for 2022 to 2024. Doug M. Sherk will also be stepping aside from his duties as Symposium Committee Coordinator. We are looking for someone to help this Committee provide topics and direction for our online family and historical presentations.

If you are interested in any of the three positions mentioned above or know of someone who would be interested in these duties, please contact Nomination Committee Chairs Stephen D. Shirk at steve.shirk@yahoo.ca or Cary Adams at cavalleyboy@earlink.net.

Website: <https://www.schurchfamilyassociation.net/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Schurch.Family.Association>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiS3CNfUIAeITjo09Y0aJ2DeNtlLgCCbG>

Schurch Symposium Announcement

The first Notable Schurch presentation in this series

How is technology affecting conflict and peace?

Presented by Dr. Lisa Schirck

June 4, 2022 at 5:00 PM EDT

Free registration open to any and all

Symposium Review:

Schürch 102: Crossing America

Demonstrating that Schürchs have spread far and wide across North America, given here are the number of coded participants from various states and provinces at the February 26 Symposium.





Different Flags



SGNS HV vom 12. März 2022 in Kerzers

English Version

Deutsche Version

Our guide, Beat Winterberger, responsible for the signaling control at Kerzers, was awaiting us at the train station; unfortunately only 16 SGNS members. It didn't take long until he was in his element and telling us in a humorous way about his "fights" with the different authorities; the SBB (Swiss Rail) and BLS (Bern-Lötschberg-Simplon Rail). With great pride he showed us his rescued "Baby", the historical signaling control built in 1901 and in operation until 2004. It was quite impressive to learn how the safety of the trains passing through here over a cross switch was secured, and it was amazing that the complete mechanical interlocks between the ordering booth at the station and the signaling control house, with a good overview of all tracks, is still functioning. Also the original, but refurbished, footbridge was pointed out by Beat. The whole complex is now under Swiss Heritage Protection. An interesting technical wonder that one would never expect at a small train station. Thanks to our guide Beat we all were very impressed!

Afterwards we enjoyed an Aperero at the bar, white wine, mineral water and chips sponsored by the SGNS and followed by a tasty meal.

It was now time to begin the annual general meeting which Kurt called to order. All the items on the agenda were taken care of. The minutes will be written by Susanne and will be published in the next Schürch News. Unfortunately, you will be informed that all efforts to invite additional members to join our board remained

Beat Winterberger, unser Führer für das Stellwerk Kerzers erwartete uns, leider nur 16 Teilnehmer, am Bahnhof. Es dauerte nicht lange, da war er im Element und erzählte uns in humorvoller Art über die Kämpfe mit den diversen Ämtern, der SBB und der BLS. Aber, mit grossem Stolz zeigte er uns sein gerettetes „Baby“, das historische Stellwerk, erbaut 1901 und im Dienst bis 2004. Eindrucksvoll auch wie die Sicherheit der Bahndurfahrten über das Kreuz gewährleistet war und es erstaunte sehr, dass die gesamten mechanischen Verriegelungen zwischen dem Freigabewerk an der Bahnhofsmauer und dem Stellwerk immer noch funktionieren. Auch die original erhaltene und renovierte Füssgängerüberführung zeigte uns Beat mit etwelchem Stolz. Die Anlage steht nun unter dem schweizerischen Heimatschutz. Ein interessantes, auf diesem eher kleinen Bahnhof nicht erwartetes technisches Wunder. Danke dem Führer Beat, wir waren alle sehr beeindruckt.

Danach erfreuten wir uns an der Bar am von der SGNS offeriertem Aperero, Weisswein, Mineral und Chips, worauf dass das fein mundete Mittagessen serviert wurde.

Nach dem Aufruf von Kurt war es an der Zeit, uns um die Traktanden unserer diesjährigen HV zu kümmern. Das Protokoll dieser Versammlung wird von Susanne verfasst und wie immer im nächsten Mitteilungsblatt veröffentlicht. Leider wird darin zu lesen sein, dass alle Bemühungen weitere Mitglieder für den Vorstand zu finden erfolglos blieben.

An dieser Stelle nochmals vielen Dank an Susanne und Heiner für die Organisation des heutigen Tages
KS 13/03/2022



SGNS Schürchs "Belly-up to the bar" at their annual meeting.



The Departed

Cathryn Bernice Dajka
1959 – 2022
N104A712

We are heartbroken to announce the loss of our amazing Cathryn, passing away in the arms of her loving husband of 25 years, Jim Pauk, January 27, 2022. She was surrounded by her family. Born November 27, 1959 in Fonthill, Cathryn was predeceased by her parents, Stephen and Alice Dajka and is survived by her brothers Bryan (Marina), Stephen (Kristen) and Glen. A magical aunt to Karley, Sydney, Jacob, Anandi, Lyndsay, Jasmine (Alex) and Jade. Great-aunt to Ava and Theo. Cathryn faced a devastating diagnosis head on with stoicism and positivity, living her last two years to the fullest. They were, in her words, the two happiest years of her life. She constantly stated how blessed she was to be surrounded by such loving and supportive family and friends, even in her last few days.



After spending years in Toronto as a fashion stylist, Cathryn moved to Jamaica for a year and a half and, after returning, went on to found Frock and Imelda, two fashion boutiques on Roncesvalles Ave. in Toronto's West end where she and Jim shared a home. She also co-founded a boutique called Ubu on the same street in the 1980's. A trailblazer in every sense, she led by example, stepping out of the house every morning in audacious outfits that were always garnering attention and wearing them so well. She was a fashion icon, much younger than her years.

She had a knack for bringing people together. Many friendships began and continue due to the environment she created. Cathryn's kindness and generosity made an impact on all the people in her community and beyond. Her inspiration and mentorship led to several of her employees following in her footsteps and going on to run their own shops. The personal friendships that she made there throughout the years are some of the strongest.

Although a fashionista, Cathryn didn't shy away from roughing it while portaging and camping when not spending time at her and Jim's family cottage on Kawagama Lake in Haliburton. She was a star at hula hooping, tether ball and tennis (sort of). She and Jim

also enjoyed exotic destinations as well as long road trips.

Cathryn's nurturing nature was evident, not only with her friends but when caring for her parents in their later years. Not having children of her own gave her the opportunity to build loving bonds with the children of friends and neighbours. She was Auntie Cathryn to many. She loved children and they loved her back.

A private gathering with family has been held. In Lieu of flowers please donate to the Moorelands Camp Starry Summer Night campaign to help send a disadvantaged kid to camp in Cathryn's memory or to the cancer charity of your choice.

Deborah Lynn Marie Kirkwood
1954 - 2021
E14222A111

Deborah Lynn Marie "Debby" Kirkwood, 67, of Dallas, Pennsylvania, passed peacefully at home with her family by her side Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021.



Born in Port Colborne, Ontario, Canada, Debby was the daughter of Hart and Faye Sherk. She grew up in Georgetown, Ontario, Canada, where she excelled academically before heading to the University of Waterloo, majoring in mathematics. She left before graduating to work for Kodak Canada.

Deborah met her husband of 45 years, Stuart, while in high school and subsequently accompanied him to the United States in 1980 as he pursued his engineering and management career in telecommunications. They traveled together through North Carolina, California and Connecticut before settling down in Northeast Pennsylvania, where she received her associate degree in accounting from Luzerne County Community College.

Debby owned her own business, Business Administrative Services, for 15 years, initially started so she could work from home while raising their two daughters, Cheryl and Lynn. After meeting and helping the ultimate fundraiser, Wally Stettler, on the library's children's wing campaign, she joined the Back

continued on page 23

Mountain Memorial Library, Dallas, where she worked for 24 years as their bookkeeper. She continued to contribute in all their fundraisers and thoroughly enjoyed the annual auction and purse bingo.

Her major passion was sewing. She was an outstanding seamstress and marvelous costume maker. Fred, and now Sunny, the library's children's wing bears for over 15 years, were a product of Debby's creativity to enhance the children's reading experience. Her other hobbies included cooking, romance and mystery novel reading, word and number puzzle mastery, listening to jazz music, attending Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins hockey games, going on cruises and trips to any casino.

Surviving to mourn her loss are her husband, Stuart, Dallas; parents, Hart and Faye Sherk, St. Catharines, Ontario; daughter, Cheryl Hicks (Ben), Simpsonville, S.C.; daughter, Lynn Simon (Rodney), Sweet Valley; grandchildren, Emma and Maverick Simon; and Eli, Maxwell and Claire Hicks; sister, Wendy Slater (Bill), Collingwood, Ontario; sister, Lori Gibson (Charlie), Pacific Grove, Calif.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at Harold C. Snowdon Funeral Home Inc., Shavertown, with the Rev. James Paisley as officiant. Friends may called prior to the services. For all of Debby's Canadian family and friends, due to border restrictions, a memorial service will be held in Canada at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Debby's memory to the Back Mountain Memorial Library, Dallas, or Hospice of the Sacred Heart, William Street, Dunmore.

Published by Citizens Voice from Oct. 14 to Oct. 15, 2021.



Sandra Lea Shirk Ray
1939 - 2021
H8170221

Sandra Lea Shirk Ray of Smiths, Bermuda, Pennsylvania passed away peacefully on November 24, 2021. It is with profound sadness that we announce the death of Sandra Lea Ray on November 24, 2021, of Smiths, Bermuda, Pennsylvania.



Sandra, 82, unexpectedly passed away while visiting family in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, leaving all that knew her in total shock.

Sandra was the beloved and devoted wife to the late Arthur Edward Ray of Bermuda and the loving mother to John Arthur Ray (Marie Trott), Lisa Lea Ray (Dr. Stephen Wittchell), and Mark Steven Ray (Tonica), all of Bermuda.

Born January 8, 1939, Sandra was the daughter of the late J. Martin Shirk and the late Anna Shirk, of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Surviving Sandra are siblings, John. M. Shirk (Jean) and Carolann Bilger (Kenneth), both of Selinsgrove. Special nieces and nephews in Pennsylvania, Cassandra Welch, Debra Moss, John 'Jay' Shirk (Jill). Sandra will also be sorely missed by countless nieces, nephews and great friends both in Bermuda and around the world.



Rodney McFarland
1937 - 2021
E14202441

Rodney K. McFarland, M.D. Bay City, MI. passed away peacefully in his sleep on March 24, 2021 at the age of 83. He was born in Charleston, West Virginia on June 17, 1937 to the late Dr. Chester Kent and Paneta Almiria (Manning) McFarland.



Rodney attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, graduated from Wayne State University Medical School in 1963 and completed his orthopedic residency at Henry Ford Hospital. He practiced in Bay City for over 40 years. He was a physician in the U.S. Navy from 1964 to 1966. Dr. McFarland served on the board of Do-All Industries and began a scoliosis screening program in the Bay City Schools. He was a fellow in the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgery and a member of the Michigan State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and a member of the medical staff at McLaren Bay Region prior to retirement.

Rodney had many interests outside of medicine. He was an instrument-rated pilot and enjoyed leisure flying for almost 50 years. He and his wife Marilyn also sailed boats on Lake Huron, Lake

Michigan, and throughout the Beaver Island Archipelago. Weather permitting and, in every season, Rodney could be seen riding his bicycle to and from home, the hospital, and his medical office. He loved music, reading and one of his greatest joys was raising Labrador retrievers and bringing them to the office to help his young patients feel relaxed for their visits. They were very popular! After retirement Rodney kept active for over 10 years by volunteering at The Helen M Nickless Free Clinic.

Rodney is survived by his wife, Dr. Marilyn R. (Martin) McFarland, whom he married August 3, 1968 at First United Methodist Church in Bay City. He also leaves his sisters: Dr. Bonnie Gay McFarland and Candace (Martin Rots) McFarland, his brother Stephen McFarland, his sisters-in-law Carolyn (Mark Pedowitz) Martin and Elizabeth Martin and his nieces and nephews April Rose McFarland, Magdalena McFarland, Martha Martin, and Dr. William (Dr. Akshara Rai) Martin. He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Dr. William Martin who was his medical partner and best friend for over 40 years.

Private burial was held at Elm Lawn Cemetery. Those who desire may make memorial contributions to the Bay City Salvation Army Food Pantry, 401 Tenth St., Bay City, MI 48708.

Robert D. Yearick
1940 - 2022
E526323711

Robert D. Yearick, Jr., 82, of E. Park St., Lock Haven, passed away Saturday, April 2, 2022, at the Jersey Shore Manor Care Health Services. He was born in Lock Haven on Jan. 5, 1940 to the late Robert D. and Lydia Smith Yearick. Robert was married to the former Bonnie Kling July 3, 1964. Mr. Yearick was a member of the Blanchard Church of Christ. He worked at various industries including Philco Electric out of Philadelphia, RCA out of Indiana, Fisher Electric of Lewisburg and UGI / Lock Haven Gas Company, from which he retired after many years of service.



Survivors of Robert include his wife Bonnie; a daughter, Becky S. Yearick of Bellefonte; a son, Robert D. (Tammie) Yearick, III of Mill Hall; two grandchildren, Kimberly A. Yearick of Woolrich and Jordan M. Yearick of Wyoming; and a sister, Carolyn (Raymond) Strecker, of New Jersey.

Funeral services for Robert D. Yearick, Jr. were held on Thursday, April 7, 2022, in the Blanchard Church of Christ. Officiating was by Pastor Russell Moldovan assisted by Associate Pastor Wally Kocher. Interment was in the Schenck Cemetery, Howard, Pennsylvania.

Family and friends were received in the church one hour prior to the services. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Robert's name to the Blanchard Church of Christ. Arrangements were under the direction of the Yost-Gedon Funeral Home & Cremation Services LLC. Online thoughts and memories can be made at www.yost-gedonfuneralhome.com or Yost-Gedon Facebook page.



It's your family and we need your contributions

Family Facts & Happenings

Births

Marriages

Graduations

Deaths

Discoveries & Research

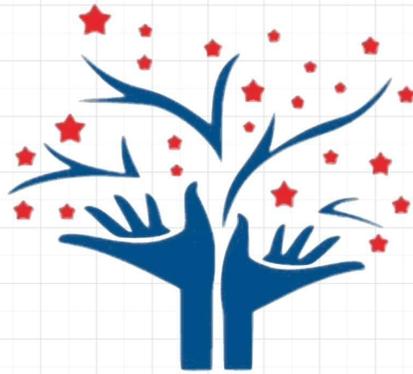
Vintage Photos

Newsletter Deadlines:

Fall Issue - October 15

Spring Issue - March 15

reuniting the past, shaping the future



Schürch Reunion 2022



August 5-6, 2022



In a cemetery in England :
*Remember man, as you walk by,
As you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, so shall you be,
Remember this and follow me.*

To which someone replied by
writing on the tombstone:
*To follow you I'll not consent,
Until I know which way you went.*