



## Phyllis Wirth

February 28, 2021

In the early morning hours of February 28 2021, Phyllis Wirth, 92, of West Taghkanic, peacefully passed away, surrounded by family, ending her battle with Parkinson's. Phyllis was born in 1928 in Moussoorie, India to missionaries George Asa Ackerly and Dorothy Eggleston Ackerly.

Phyllis received her psychology degree from Westminster College, PA and her Masters in Education from Russell Sage College, Albany, NY. She taught 1st grade at the Greenport Elementary School for many years. One of her most rewarding experiences, aside from being a grandmother, was her part in the creation of the Hudson Day Care Center. Following the daycare's inception she continued for many years to show support by volunteering at the train station's snack bar raising money for the day care center.

Until Parkinson's took control, Phyllis was always on the go. She enjoyed hiking, downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing, swimming, body surfing and playing tennis. She was vicious at croquet. When relaxing, Phyllis enjoyed reading, knitting, hooking and braiding rugs and following professional sports.

Phyllis and her husband Allan enjoyed 65 wonderful years together until his passing a year ago. They loved to travel, mountain climb, camp and bird watch, especially with their friends Katy and Stan Bardwell.

Phyllis touched and influenced many lives. She was non judgmental and accepting. In India, her family had the opportunity to meet Mahatma Gandhi, influencing her passion for peace. She was also passionate about protecting the environment.

Phyllis was preceded in death by her husband Allan, parents George and Dorothy, sister Janet Gunn, brother in law Leigh Gunn and nephew David Kirk. She leaves behind her beloved daughters Dorothy Wirth, Christine (John) Sejan and Betsy Wirth (Renee Stone), grandchildren Adelaide and Sam Sejan, nieces Phyllis Gunn and Allison Kirk and nephews Andy, George, LB and David Gunn.

She was Mimi to Joslyn, Emily and Kat and also leaves behind her beloved cat Morris. A special thank you to Jackie who cared for both Phyllis and Allan at home over the past few years and to neighbors Shirley and Elliot for their friendship and assistance. You are family and we love you. A special thank you to Denise who also cared for Phyllis near the end and to hospice for allowing us to fulfill her wish to pass at home. We cannot thank you enough.

She will be sorely missed. Fly high Mimi!

There are no services or calling hours.

# Comments

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“ I was a helper in Ms. Wirth 1st grade class.At greenport school. My youngest sister was a student in her class at the time {Theresa Snyder}.Your Mom was a kind and gentle soul I saw your mon many years later in Key West, Fla. where i have a vacation home. Sending you my deepest sympathy in her passing.Keeping you and your family in my thought s and prayers. Rest in peace, friend....Wes Snyder, College Park, Marylland

**wesley snyder** - March 18 at 12:03 AM

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“ Aunt Phyllis and my mother Janet were sisters and best friends. So I always treasured being blessed with the name Phyllis. It was a special bond. Aunt Phyllis always welcomed me and my family with open arms, love, kindness and generosity. She was always busy with something, particularly taking care of her mother, Dot, for many years. That was the caring type of person she was, as are her daughters who cared for her at home until she passed. As Aunt Phyllis would say, they are very special people and she loved them dearly. I will miss Aunt Phyllis and Uncle Allan very much...sitting in the living room and talking about everything under the sun, looking at photos, watching MASH, the Andy Griffith Show, and professional tennis matches. Yes, Aunt Phyllis was passionate about tennis and Roger Federer--just couldn't get enough of his tennis matches! I am thankful she had a fun and loving life, made everyone feel special, and let us all enjoy her love for so many years. Love you to the stars and back...we'll miss you so very much Mimi Phyllis!

**Phyllis Gunn** - March 16 at 11:47 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Phyllis Wirth



**Phyllis Gunn** - March 16 at 11:16 PM

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“ 5 files added to the album Phyllis Wirth - A Fun and Loving Life



**Phyllis Gunn** - March 16 at 11:12 PM

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“ I miss you and Alan both so much. You were like my adopted Mom and Dad. We loved helping you both, when you needed it. Thank you Dorothy, Chris, and Betsy for sharing your dear parents with us. Forever in our hearts. Give Allen a hug and kiss for me. Shirley and Elliott Curtis

**Shirley Curtis** - March 14 at 08:20 AM

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“ I miss our spa days. Especially miss your lil chuckle and funny faces you would make. Phyllis I miss you so much, forever in my heart.

**Denise Shufelt** - March 12 at 03:04 PM