



Betty J. Lasher

April 26, 1932 - August 15, 2025

Mrs. Betty J. (Kelch) Lasher, of Elizaville, NY, died peacefully with family by her side on Friday, August 15, 2025. Betty was a native of Germantown, NY, and later moved to Elizaville with her husband John “Jack” Lasher. In October they would have celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary.

Betty valued education, and after graduating from Germantown High School, she worked as the secretary to the Dean of Students at Albany State Teacher’s College (now SUNY Albany). Both academic and experiential learning were of value to her. She supported three generations in athletics and 4-H clubs, and mentored youth through the Fresh Air Fund. Betty and Jack loved to travel and took extended camping trips all over the country, often with family and a knitting project in her lap. They regularly attended dinner dances and were well-regarded for their repertoire of dance moves. She excelled as a baker, quilter, seamstress, and gardener, consistently producing impressive quantities of food from her modest kitchen.

Betty’s was a life devoted to family and community, guided by faith, and defined by selfless generosity. She and Jack were pillars of their community and exemplified the term love thy neighbor through acts of service, like organizing pancake breakfasts and chicken barbecues to help fund the Elizaville Fire Company, Elizaville Methodist Church, and Manorton Lutheran Church. She served on the town planning board and was the secretary at her

church. For Betty, tragedy and loss meant an opportunity to give, and she did so through the values of kindness, perseverance, and strength.

Betty is preceded in death by her son David, and brothers, Herman (Edith S.), Raymond (Edith C.). She is survived by her husband Jack, daughters Sharon Odak (Tom), Leann Schroder (Marc), granddaughters Stephanie Harris (Dan), Jamie Colon, great-grandsons Brandon, Justin, Ricky, nieces, great nieces and nephew, and great-great-grand nieces. In lieu of flowers and cards, we respectfully ask that donations be made to your local volunteer fire department, church, or to St. Jude's. In accordance with Betty's wishes, no memorial service will be held. Instead, we invite you to honor her legacy of community service by contributing to your local food bank, participating in town government, supporting local athletics, and fostering acts of kindness within your community. We are eternally grateful for the compassionate care provided by the staff at the FASNY Fireman's Home.