



## Martha Louise Merrill Sheets

March 25, 1923 - September 18, 2016

Martha was born March 25, 1923 and passed away peacefully on September 18, 2016 after a brief illness. Many people had the chance to say goodbye in her final hours and testified to her positive and loving way of life. Martha always found the good in people, and believed that everyone was important. She had a gift for conversation and always put it to good use.

Martha was a proud graduate of DeVilbiss High School and attended Toledo University the following fall of 1941. She had a teaching fellowship in Business Administration and graduated with her BBA in 1945. With WWII over, she renewed a childhood friendship with Ted C. Sheets and they were married in December of 1946. She was a lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association and a member of Mortar Board (via Peppers). Three of her four children graduated from UT.

She was active in many organizations in Toledo, and had the honor of being appointed the first woman Commissioner of Metroparks Toledo after helping to successfully champion the levy that created Wildwood Metropark. She was active in her church, serving for many years as Sunday school superintendent. She was a noted public speaker on diverse topics such as Chrismon Trees, Johnny Appleseed, and Butterflies to many organizations throughout NW Ohio.

In 1980, she moved to Chattanooga, TN; "Bloom Where You are Planted" was one of her mottos. In Chattanooga, she became quite active with the Chattanooga Symphony Guild, working as historian for many years on

Decorator's Show Houses. She was a past president of the Chattanooga Little Theater Associates and active in many other organizations. She was a member of Zonta International in both Toledo and Chattanooga, and PEO in Chattanooga.

She returned to Toledo in 2008 and spent her twilight years in the loving care of Swan Creek Retirement Village, catching up with her many friends from earlier days and making new ones. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Maumee and loved to worship there. Her family is ever so grateful for the many people who helped her complete her life's journey. "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Ted C. Sheets and her daughter Susan Sheets-Pyenson. She leaves a loving family of her son, Thomas Merrill (Kitty) Sheets, daughter Laura Louise (Jim) Kroeger, son Charles Ira (Beth) Sheets; sister Ruth McClurg; eight grandchildren and eight+ great-grandchildren. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made in her memory to Swan Creek Retirement Village, First Presbyterian Church of Maumee, or Metroparks Toledo.

Visitation will be Friday, September 23, from 5-8 p.m. at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd. There will be a memorial service at First Presbyterian Church of Maumee Saturday, September 24 at 11 a.m. Interment will be at Toledo Memorial Park.

Please view Martha's Memorial video tribute and leave a condolence message for the family at [CoyleFuneralHome.com](http://CoyleFuneralHome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Toledo Memorial Park

6382 Monroe St  
Sylvania, OH 43560

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **23**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home  
1770 S. Reynolds Road  
Toledo, OH 43614

## Funeral

SEP **24**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church  
Maumee, OH 43537

# Tribute Wall

GM

“ I worked with Martha in the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Guild for many years, and she was the "go-to" for the histories on our Decorator Showhouses! She was always so good to work with, and her dedication to making sure the history was accurate was so important. Sincere condolences to her family. Gloria J Miller, Chattanooga

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**Gloria J Miller** - September 23, 2016 at 05:13 PM

LK

Thank you Gloria We really enjoyed learning the histories of Chattanooga through working on the Show Houses. Good memories that will not be forgotten

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**Laura Kroeger** - September 26, 2016 at 01:06 PM

JM

“ I remember Martha fondly from our association together with the Chattanooga Theatre Centre/Little Theatre Associates --she was enthusiastic and supportive --a pleasure to be around and to work with and always interested in the youth of our Theatre as well. My condolences to the family : "God gave us memory that we might have roses in December".

*June H. McBride*

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**June H. McBride** - September 23, 2016 at 03:37 PM

LK

Thank you June...she really loved the Little Theatre

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**Laura Kroeger** - September 26, 2016 at 01:04 PM

DS

“ Martha was a very nice neighbor and I enjoyed meeting her. I think of her often when I look at an antique lamp she gave me. I lost touch with her after she left our neighborhood but have often thought about her kindness..God bless you Martha

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**David Sessoms** - September 23, 2016 at 09:05 AM

DH

“ I met Mrs. Sheets thru my Mother, who was a good friend of hers'(Mary Lou Grainger). I learned to type from Martha - yes I was one of the students in her typing classes. I have fond memories of going to Martha's house with my sister , Claudia, and Mother, to have fun craft days. She was always fun to be around. She will be greatly missed.

*Diane (Grainger) Hanslik*

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**Diane Hanslik** - September 23, 2016 at 08:07 AM

LK

*Thank you Diane..Gosh it is good to hear from you. Mom always had so much fun with your mom and Mrs Seubert. They would get together and lots of giggling would go on. Thanks for remembering her!*

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**Laura Kroeger** - September 26, 2016 at 01:08 PM

JO

“ Martha was a devoted member of the Murray Hills Garden Club in Chattanooga, TN for many years. We loved her so much and have missed her since she moved back to Ohio. Our condolences and prayers are with her family.

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**Jean Overton** - September 23, 2016 at 07:59 AM

LK

*We loved being friends with the ladies of the Murray Hills Garden Club*

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**Laura Kroeger** - September 26, 2016 at 01:10 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Martha Louise Merrill Sheets.*



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September 22, 2016 at 03:32 PM



“ *A wonderful Mom, Grandma, and Great Grandma! Love you dearly*

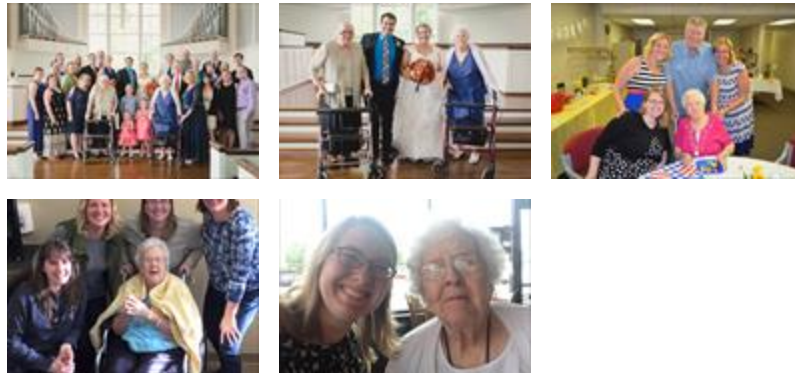


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**Laura Kroeger** - September 21, 2016 at 01:56 PM



“ *29 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Kathleen Henrion** - September 21, 2016 at 10:35 AM