



## Ruthann W. Gotwols

November 16, 1923 - March 14, 2018

Born in West Grove, PA on November 16, 1923, Ruthann was the wife and partner of Reverend G. Webster Gotwols. She was the youngest of eight children born to Andrew C. and Mary Ann Thomson Whitehead.

She was a life-long Methodist. Ruthann graduated from Philadelphia High School for Girls, studied at The Clarke Conservatory of Music and the Philadelphia Academy of Vocal Arts. She and "Web" performed in leading roles with the Gilbert and Sullivan Players and sang as soloists in choirs in the Philadelphia area and the Berks Grand Opera in Reading, PA. They entered into Christian ministry together in 1962 in the Methodist denomination, now the United Methodist Church, serving churches in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. After retirement in 1986 the Gotwols' continued to serve part-time in Reading and Lebanon, PA. They settled at the Mt. Lebanon Camp Meeting where they lived since and served the Lord, whom they loved. Family, music and serving the Lord were the common and most important emphases in their lives. Ruthann has been an active member of the Senior Singers in Lebanon since 1993 and a pianist/organist at several churches in the Lebanon area.

She is survived by her children – Andrew W. (Mazie) of Columbia PA, Virginian Ruth Taylor of Wolfeboro, NH, G. Robert (Jackie) of Wrightsville PA, Timothy (Sandra L. Jones) of Holderness, NH. She has seven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, siblings and a great grand daughter. Music and interest in humanities were much a part of the Gotwols' lives and they used their talents to serve others.

Ruthann's final wish is that those who profess to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord would follow the teachings of the Bible to make this world a better place. A celebration of her life will be held at Ebenezer United Methodist Church on May 5, 2018 at 11 am with a reception to follow. If desired, donations may be made in Ruthann's memory to the "Harmonia Music Association Scholarship Fund" to fund scholarships for Lebanon County high school seniors wishing to further their education in music. Donations should be mailed to: Harmonia Music Association Scholarship Fund, Linda Rohland, Treasurer, 310 Knight St., Lebanon PA 17046.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruthann W. Gotwols*

October 22, 2023 at 10:35 PM



“ *Ruthann W. Gotwols*

October 06, 2023 at 08:29 AM



“ *Ruthann W. Gotwols*

October 05, 2023 at 11:43 PM



“ *Dear family of Ruthann, my family and I send our sincere condolences to all of you. I've known her since her association at St. Matthews UMC in Reading PA. She consoled me at my Father's memorial service in 2007; she also played the organ during my daughter, Ruth's, wedding ceremony in 1999. She was such a sweet person to all of us and will be missed by many. May God bless all of you.*

**Louise Kulp - Elizabethtown, NC - Family Friend** - April 23, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ How shall I begin ... to tell the story? Joy and I served in Roxborough/Manayunk with Web and RuthAnn in the 1970s. They were the older (and often wiser) couple with a colleague group of (then) young clergy: Gil and Lynn Rendle, Paul and Joan Shumate, Herb Snyder, Fred and Linda Day, and more. We did joint ministry, ate together, sang together, prayed together, learned and served together. And the exuberant joy that Web and RuthAnn brought to the group was a treasure. We liked ourselves - and our ministry - best when we were accompanied by them both!

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**Kent Kroehler - Lancaster, PA - Friend** - April 20, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Mr. and Mrs. G were not only amazing people but were an inspiration to a youth fellowship group at St. Matthews United Methodist Church in Reading, PA. Their dedication to the scriptures along with their love of music made church and fellowship seem like a family reunion and encouraged discipline and love that helped to mold many successful careers.

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**Jamie Phillips - Fleetwood, PA - friend** - April 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ RuthAnn, You have been a dear and cherished friend. We have spent many pleasant times together and also worked together for the prayer breakfast. You were honest, forthright, kind, and always willing to help anyone. Your singing and musicianship are know throughout the county and beyond. You tried your best to speak and act as a Christian woman should. Biblically.. The Lord must be pleased! I've spent a bit of time wondering what you're up to. I realize it would be too amazing to describe. May we meet when I join you. I shall always treasure our friendship and our devotion to God. I miss you, RuthAnn. Blessings and love, Thelma Strauss

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**Thelma Strauss - Lebanon, PA - Friend** - March 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Uncle Bob, We are so sorry for the loss of your mother. She was an amazing woman, one we can all look up too. May God grant you peace, and strength to get thru these trying times. (((((HUGS))))))

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**Jason & Joann Price - Columbia, PA - Family** - March 22, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Everyday there will be many reminders of how our lives with Mom "G" intertwined. Just this morning when I was picking up a small cardboard box, I thought "I can't throw this away, I may need it to send ginger candy to Mom." Every Easter Mom "G" sent us an Easter basket that Tim would hide until Easter morning and arrange the candy she sent in the Easter basket he has saved since childhood. Traditions were important to Ruthann and we plan to keep many of her traditions alive. We miss you already Mom. Rest In Peace.

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**Sandra Jones - Holderness, NH - Family** - March 20, 2018 at 12:00 AM