



Margaret A Mackenzie

April 17, 1941 - February 6, 2025

Margaret “Peggy” Mackenzie (nee Atkinson), age 83, passed away peacefully on February 6, 2025 at her home in Brandywine Assisted Living in Moorestown, NJ. Devoted mother of Allison Heller (John) and Tamah Freni (Jason), cherished grandmother to Joshua, Seth, and Brooke Freni. Survived by her first husband, Frank Rush, and predeceased in 2021 by her second husband Murdo James “Jim” Mackenzie and brother Stacy Atkinson (Barbara). Also survived by sister Karen Lamb (Jeffrey) and brother David Atkinson (Mary), and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Born in Mt. Holly, NJ on April 17, 1941 to the late Elizabeth Atkinson (nee Harding) and Stacy Atkinson, Peggy attended Mt. Holly High School (now Rancocas Valley Regional High School) and graduated with a BS from Temple University in 1963, followed by a certificate in cytology in 1964. She worked most of her career as a cytotechnologist in the lab at Mt. Holly (Virtua) Hospital, and later at Zurbrugg Hospital (Virtua) in Willingboro. In her younger years, Peggy played the piano and enjoyed needlepoint, counted-cross-stitch, sewing, and quilting. Peggy was constantly reading and learning. She loved all things nature and was a longtime member of the Burlington County Natural Sciences Club where she spent several years as an officer. An avid birdwatcher, “Piney Peg” could be found studying nature and hiking in the Pine Barrens, at the Jersey shore, or in the Poconos. She was an avid gardener and became a Master Gardener for the State of North Carolina after

she remarried. She had numerous butterfly gardens and worked tirelessly to make her yards in NJ and NC natural habitats for all of God's creatures. Peggy loved the Christian faith and studying the Bible, and was an active member of First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Holly, until moving to NC where she was a member of Merriman Methodist Church and later Morehead City Presbyterian Church. Since her return to NJ, she had been a member of Red Lion Faith Chapel.

Relatives and friends may gather at Perinchief Chapels 438 High St. in Mt. Holly on Tuesday, February 11 from 9-10 am. Service at 10:00 am. Interment to follow at Mt. Holly Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in Peggy's memory may be made to NJ Audubon Society <https://njudubon.org/donate/> , Operation Smile <https://www.operationsmile.org/?form=FUNHTDNWRYT> , or Red Lion Faith Chapel <https://redlionfaithchapel.net/>

Cemetery Details

Mount Holly Cemetery

Mount Holly Ave.
Mount Holly, NJ

Previous Events

Gathering of Family and Friends

FEB 11. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Perinchief Chapels
438 High St.
Mount Holly, NJ 08060
(609) 267-0399

Funeral Service

FEB 11. 10:00 AM (ET)

Perinchief Chapels
438 High St.
Mount Holly, NJ 08060
(609) 267-0399

Tribute Wall

JK

“ So sorry to hear this news. We had a bond on birding & wildflower tours plus her butterflies in NC. They even let museum tours come to their home in Merrimon. I'm glad she could enjoy birds until the end. We have enjoyed painted buntings at our feeders. She would like that. Now she flies with the birds.
Jeannie Kraus

Jeannie Wilson Kraus - February 09, 2025 at 08:55 AM

GH

“ George & Amy Heller purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Margaret A Mackenzie.



George & Amy Heller - February 08, 2025 at 04:43 PM

VC

“ I will truly miss my dear friend who was practical, wise, and witty. She would clip and save (with your name) any newspaper or magazine articles that she felt would be of special interest to you. There would be a neat little pile (paper clipped) waiting for you when you went to visit.

Vicki Chandel - February 07, 2025 at 08:26 PM

LR

“Peggy was know by our family of always maticulously unwrapping a gift, being careful not to tear the paper, neatly folding it, and we would not be surprised to find a gift from her wrapped in the same paper! We teased her about it a little, but I know some of us started to do the same, because it was an awesome idea! After all, it's a shame to just toss really cute or pretty paper away! ❤️

Lori Roy - February 07, 2025 at 07:16 PM

BL

I remember Peggy so well from our school days in Mt. Holly public school system and the Mt. Holly High school. She was always sweet and kind in her ways. She was gentle in spirit. I loved reading her obit having lost touch with her over the years. Heaven is your home now. God bless you, Peggy.

Barbara Hubbs Lindsey - February 10, 2025 at 11:19 AM