



## Phyllis Jean Simpson

July 30, 1934 - August 21, 2018

Phyllis Jean Simpson, 84, of Charlotte, died peacefully August 21, 2018 at her home. A beloved member of the community who devoted her life to God and to helping others, she was born July 30, 1934 in Rochester, MI to Hiram and Mildred (Abbott) Barney. Phyllis graduated from Vermontville High School in 1952 and then married John Simpson on August 29, 1954 at Gresham United Methodist Church.

The central theme running through Phyllis's life is that of nurturing. She cared for, and helped develop many organizations and causes she believed in. For example, she received the "Gold Clover" award and "Friend of 4-H" award from the 4-H club for 40 years of volunteer service, received the "Outstanding Farm Woman" award for her work with Farm Bureau on many projects, including "Ag in the Classroom," was awarded the "Emerald Award" from the Eaton County Youth Fair, spent 50 years in the Extension Club of Eaton County, worked with the Chester Township election board for decades, and was a UMW member and secretary to the advisory board for more than 25 years at Gresham United Methodist Church--where she faithfully served by making the weekly programs, helping put on turkey suppers and ice cream socials, and caring for countless others.

Not only did Phyllis nurture others and her community, but she also loved to nurture plants. She could often be found tending to her garden--planting flowers or cultivating vegetables. She especially loved her strawberries and made delicious jam that the family loved. She and John loved their farm, where they have resided since 1963. Together, they were inducted into the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame in 2002. She was also a partner in Simpson Pioneer Seeds. Phyllis and John loved to travel – often on farm tours or with friends – and she was proud to say that she had been to all 50 states.

But the reason she will be remembered most is that Phyllis nurtured relationships. First, and foremost, she served God every day. She got up and read her Bible for an hour each morning, developing her faith and her spirituality. She never said a bad word about others, but devoted her life to being accepting, loving, and kind. She was devoted to her marriage and her family, and loved her children and grandchildren dearly.

Phyllis is survived by her husband of nearly 64 years, John Simpson; children Marilyn (Stanley) Marshall, Wayne (Sandy) Simpson, Diane (Sheldon) Enterline; grandchildren, Angel Andrews, Kathleen Marshall, Samantha (Lam Pham) Marshall, Josh (Lindsay) Simpson, Jason Ross, Josh Ross, and Jeff Ross; great-grandchildren, Kalli (Matt) Mongar, Kadence Andrews; great-great-granddaughter, Aubree Mongar; siblings, Louise (Richard) Todd, Leonard (Bonnie) Barney; and brothers- and sisters-in-law, Marvel (LaMarr) Weers, Max (Sandy) Simpson, Lois (Ken) Klumpp, Albert (Jayne) Simpson, and Roy (Krys) Simpson. She was preceded in death by her parents and beloved grandson, Clifford Marshall.

Friends are encouraged to support Phyllis's family at visitation and funeral services, with visitations on Saturday, August 25, 6-8:00 PM and Sunday, August 26, 1-4:00 PM, and Funeral Services on Monday, August 27 at 10:00 AM with Pastor Bryce Feighner officiating. If desired, the family suggests donations to Hospice of Lansing or the Gresham United Methodist Church Memorial Fund for a new roof on the church building. Please share memories of Phyllis on her Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Cemetery

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## Gresham Cemetery

4100 Mulliken Rd  
Charlotte, MI, 48813

# Events

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**AUG 25** Visitation 06:00PM - 08:00PM  
Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

**AUG 26** Visitation 01:00PM - 04:00PM  
Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

**AUG 27** Funeral Ceremony 10:00AM  
Pray Funeral Home  
401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 25, 2018 at 11:09 AM

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“ 40 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 25, 2018 at 10:07 AM

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“ AG Twitchell sent a virtual gift in memory of Phyllis Jean Simpson



AG Twitchell - August 25, 2018 at 08:24 AM

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“ I'll always remember the times we ran across the road to visit one another, and times the kids would stand on their side and talk. The times we would go to extension and on trips to glass shows. We knew we could count on each other. Your already missed, and I'm glad we got to talk before you went home. Love to your family and God bless. Your friend Patti

Patti Wright - August 24, 2018 at 05:56 PM

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“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Phyllis Jean Simpson.



August 24, 2018 at 10:48 AM

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“ Such fond memories of Phyllis from my childhood years in Millerburg 4H Club. Phyllis was such a kind and selfless leader. I'm so thankful that she took the time to invest in me and so many others. Her life was a beautiful example of faithfulness, devotion, and love. She will be sorely missed.

**Melissa Bohus** - August 24, 2018 at 05:37 AM

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“ John-so sorry to hear of the passing of your wife. Thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.

Lori and Raymond Aseltine

**Lori Aseltine** - August 23, 2018 at 07:41 AM

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“ Friends&Neighbors Larry&Patti Wright& Family purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Phyllis Jean Simpson.



**Friends&Neighbors Larry&Patti Wright& Family** - August 22, 2018 at 04:46 PM

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“ From: All your friends at Citizens Elevator purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Phyllis Jean Simpson.



From: All your friends at Citizens Elevator - August 22, 2018 at 03:26 PM