

Norma Jean Leichthy

December 26, 1929 - October 27, 2022

Norma Jean Leichthy passed away at her home on October 27, 2022. She was the middle child, born December 26, 1929, in West Liberty, Ohio, to O.B. and Clara Greider Warye. She told many interesting stories of growing up in the 1930s. Although her family was very poor, she was well loved and cared for and had a happy childhood. She gave her heart to Jesus at a revival meeting when she was 11 and was a member of the Mennonite Church from that time on.

Norma Jean's family moved to Virginia when she was a teenager and then to Hubbard, Oregon. Her dad had followed the crops when he was single and loved Oregon, so eventually her mother agreed to move. For Norma Jean moving was difficult. She had finished high school in Virginia and had a good job and lots of friends. Soon she made new friends in Oregon. When the young men from Fairview came to Zion on Sunday nights, she became acquainted with Jake Leichthy, and they married in 1949. She was a farmer's wife and mother to four children, grandmother to 11, and great grandmother to 14. They have fond memories of her themed parties, especially the wolfie party. She loved to cook and entertain people. She was known for using the dribble glass as a prank at the table and also served oxtail soup, with the tail, to someone who teased her about pulling the tail off a baby pig that she was trying to rescue.

Norma Jean was a natural teacher. She taught Sunday School, summer Bible school and women's Bible studies. When she was young, she thought she might become a missionary, and God used her to reach out to many people as well as support various missionaries and mission work. She kept a diary, wrote poems, and chose a word for the year, then searched for verses on that subject. Her theme for this year was hope, which she is now experiencing to the fullest degree. "Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my HOPE is in Him." Psalm 62:5.

Over the years Norma Jean was called Norjie, NJ and Gongey by people who knew and loved her. She especially liked being called Gongey because her first grandchild called her that. That name has stuck with her for 45 years.

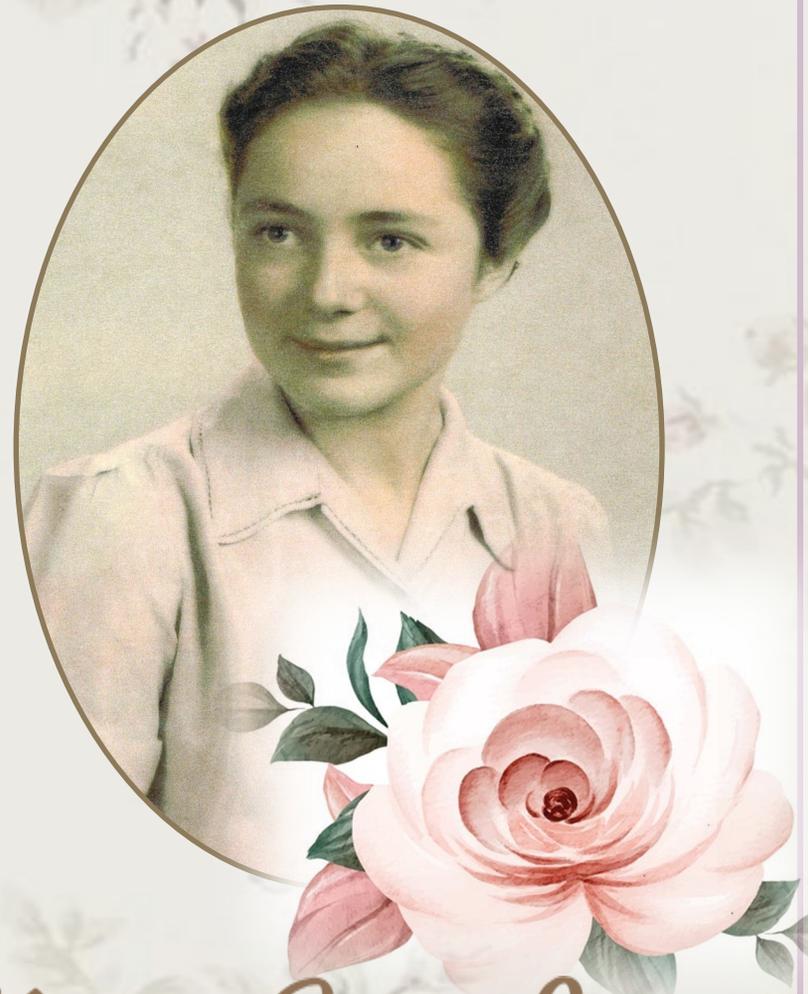
Her parents, two brothers, and husband Jake went on before her. She is survived by Barbara Jo and Bob Kaufman, Calvin and Mary Leichthy, Phil and Rosie Leichthy, and Jan and Al Garcia, her grandchildren, great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, her brother-in-law Wilmer Leichthy, and his wife Mary, along with many who consider her their grandma and friend.

Memorial contributions can be made to Christian Aid Ministries or Back to the Bible in care of Fairview Mennonite Church.

You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Psalm 16:11

In Loving Memory



Norma Jean Leichthy

December 26, 1929 ~ October 27, 2022

*I'm not looking for the sunset,
As the swift years come and go;
I am looking for the sunrise,
And the golden morning glow,
Where the light of heaven's glory
Will break forth upon my sight,
In the land that knows no sunset,
Nor the darkness of the night.*

*I'm not going down the pathway
Toward the setting of the sun,
Where the shadows ever deepen
When the day at last is done;
I am walking up the hillside
Where the sunshine lights the way,
To the glory of the sunrise
Of God's never-ending day.*

*I'm not going down, but upward,
And the path is never dim,
For the day grows ever brighter
As I journey on with Him.
So my eyes are on the hilltops,
Waiting for the sun to rise,
Waiting for His invitation
To the home beyond the skies.*

There I'll meet my Lord and Savior,

And to Him I'll humbly bow.

*He's the One who died to save me,
And at last I've reached my goal.*

*Then I'll thank and I will praise Him
For His love and for His grace,*

*For the **JOY** in His presence*

When I see Him face to face.

*Looking for the Sunrise by Albert Simpson Reitz
(last verse by Norma Jean Leichty)*

In Loving Memory of

Norma Jean Leichty

Memorial Service

Monday, October 31, 2022 at 3 p.m.

Fairview Mennonite Church

Albany, Oregon

Prelude	Volanda Leichty Bette Kropf
Welcome, Scripture & Prayer	Pastor James Kropf
Congregational Songs "How Great Though Art" "Face to Face"	Rosie Leichty
Obituary	Phil Leichty
Quartet "I know That My Redeemer Liveth" "What a Day That Will Be"	Ben Gerig, Jamison Headings, Jess Ropp, Randy Smucker
Meditation	Pastor Brandon Funk
Memories	Matt Leichty
Special Music	Anthony Kaufman Family
Norma Jean's Testimony	
Announcements & Prayer	Pastor Brandon Funk
Postlude—Quartet "Where the Soul Never Dies" "I'll Meet You in the Morning"	
Casket Bearers Grandsons Matt Leichty, Andrew Leichty, Anthony Kaufman, Micah Garcia, Blaine Leichty Great—Grandsons Preston Coburn, Noah Leichty, William Kaufman	
Officiating	Pastor James Kropf
Special Song—Octet "Safe in the Arms of Jesus"	Rosie Leichty, Velma Ropp, Mary Leichty, Kristin Smith, Jamison Headings, Jess Ropp, Ben Gerig, Randy Smucker