



## Ruth G. Diffenderfer

February 8, 1949 - September 22, 2014

Ruth Grace (Loughner) Diffenderfer, age 65 of Irwin, passed from this life peacefully Monday, September 22, 2014, in Redstone Highlands, Greensburg, after her 26 year battle with cancer. She was born in Greensburg, February 8, 1949, the daughter of Ruth (Kunkle) Loughner of Irwin and the late Wayne Loughner. She grew up in Irwin where she was a girl scout and graduated from Norwin High School, Class of 1967. She then went to Grove City College where she met her husband Dennis, earned a degree in Elementary Education, and was President of the sorority, Theta Alpha Pi. She received a master's degree in elementary education from Penn State. She taught kindergarten and 1st grade for 25 years at Norwin School District. She also served as President of the Norwin PTA. During her tenure at Norwin, "Mrs. D" formed many lasting relationships with the children she taught, parents and colleagues. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Irwin her whole life where she served as a deacon and elder. We thank Ruthie for all the joy she gave us. She was an extraordinary daughter, wife, mother, sister, friend, aunt, teacher, neighbor, cousin, colleague, and volunteer, and most importantly an incredible person who believed in the resurrected Jesus Christ. In addition to her mother she is survived by her husband of 42 years, Dennis R. Diffenderfer; her children, David Diffenderfer, an Army 82nd Airborne veteran, of Irwin and Julie Armel and her husband Adam of Dormont; her brother Joe Loughner of Tulsa, OK; and beloved cousins, Paul and Chelsea Bair of Tucson, AZ; Skip and Mary-Ann Leon of Concord, NH; John and Alex

Kunkle of Monroeville, PA; Bill and Jan Kunkle of Camillus, NY; Rick and Denise Kunkle of Brighton, MI; Daryl Gilder of Rowley, MA; Ed and Ann McEnderfer of Bloomington, IN and Puran and Susanna Bair of Tucson, AZ. In addition to her father she is preceded in death by her father and mother in-law Ken and Carolyn Diffenderfer formerly of Hagerstown, MD. Friends will be received from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the William Snyder Funeral Home, 521 Main Street, Irwin, 724-863-1200. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday in First Presbyterian Church, 617 Main Street, Irwin, with her pastor, Dr. Ronald H. Wakeman, officiating. Those attending please go directly to the church. Interment will follow in Union Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Redstone Highlands Benevolent Care Fund of Greensburg, by contacting Lisa Dormire at 724-832-8400 or Westmoreland County Community College Educational Foundation of Youngwood, by contacting Debra Woods at 724-925-4083. The family wishes to thank the staff of Redstone Highlands for their professional, conscientious and caring support during a difficult and trying time in the passing of their beloved Ruthie. For online condolences please visit [www.snyderfuneralservices.com](http://www.snyderfuneralservices.com). Farewell to the lady with a smile! Your Tuesday morning bible class will miss you dearly.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **24.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

## Visitation

SEP **25.** 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

## Visitation

SEP **25.** 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

William Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642  
(724) 863-1200  
<https://williamsnyderfuneralhome.com/>

## Service

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SEP **26**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

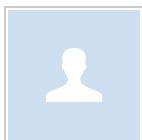
First Presbyterian Church  
617 Main Street  
Irwin, PA 15642

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth G. Diffenderfer*

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ *Ruth G. Diffenderfer*

August 23, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ *Denny, Julie, David and family,  
Bill and I were so sad to hear that dear Ruthie passed. You all have  
our heartfelt sympathy. Love and prayers, Bill and Jan King*

jan king - October 25, 2014 at 02:04 PM



“ *Denny, David and Julie,*

*We are so sorry for your loss. Ruthie was a wonderful person and  
always a delight to be around. Sorry we couldn't be with you. You  
are all in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Aunt Bernice Boyer, Jeffrey Boyer and Kristine Keener.*

Kristine Keener - September 30, 2014 at 03:55 PM



“ *Hello to the family, Ruthie was a very kind and fair person and I  
thought the world of her, please except our condolences. Mimi&  
Mike Butler*

mimi - September 25, 2014 at 07:30 PM

RT

“ A special person who cared so very much about her family, her friends, and most of all, the precious children entrusted to her at school. She was one of a kind and will be remembered by all who knew her . May she be at peace from all her pain and suffering. Until we meet again -Ruth Ann

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**Ruth Ann Tully** - September 25, 2014 at 04:28 PM

RB

“ Dear Ruthie's Family,  
My name is Rita (Halas) Berquist from Greensburg. Ruthie was our Playground Instuctor at the Kim Plan Playground when I was about 13. I remember her as being such a kind and upbeat person. She was one of the first people I looked up to and didn't treat me like a little kid. She would talk to us on the phone and allow us to come to the house to visit and hang out with her. The last time I saw her was about 10 years ago when I was visiting the 1st Presbyterian Church. Please accept my deepest sympathies. I did not know her husband and children, but do know her mom and brother, Joe. I will always feel that she in someway contributed to the successful person I am today by showing me a good example of how to be a good person. She can now be at peace in Heaven from her suffering.

sincerely,  
Rita

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**Rita Berquist** - September 25, 2014 at 11:50 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Ruth G. Diffenderfer.*



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September 25, 2014 at 11:49 AM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss and I will miss meeting your mom one day. Reading through the thoughts and memories your mom was a wonderful person and her smile would light up any room. Praying for peace and comfort from friends, family and memories comfort you in the days to come.*

*Love,  
Sunday*

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**Sunday Kareis** - September 25, 2014 at 06:34 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ruth G. Diffenderfer.*



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September 24, 2014 at 01:36 PM



“ You will be missed by so many. Your smile lit up any room that you entered. <3



PeggyAnne List - September 24, 2014 at 10:08 AM



“ Anne Balta Novotnak lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Diffenderfer



Anne Balta Novotnak - September 23, 2014 at 05:53 PM



*I remember her as Mrs. D when she taught me at Circleville as a kindergarten teacher. She was a wonderful teacher and person. Anytime I saw her she always remembered who I was even when I returned home after college and I would see her around town she would always say hi and remember my family and we would talk as though we had just seen each other yesterday! She made a lasting impression in my mind and my heart and she will be greatly missed. I know that she is watching over all of us with that big smile and letting us know she is with us! Anne Balta*

Anne Balta Novotnak - September 23, 2014 at 06:00 PM



*I too had Mrs. D at Circleville and have the best memories of Kindergarten ! She is one special person that will forever be in my heart! What a positive person she was. So happy I was able to share in her sunshine.*

B. Kibel - September 27, 2014 at 07:24 AM