



Tena Ruth Johnson Pletcher

April 23, 1924 - November 22, 2018

Tena Ruth Johnson Pletcher, 92, of Buena Vista passed away Thursday November 22, 2018. She was born April 23 1926 in Buena Vista, the daughter of the late Ralph L. and Ruth Odessa (McClellan) Johnson. She owned and operated the Ralph L. Johnson Funeral Home in Buena Vista having been a licensed funeral director for nearly 70 years. After graduating from high school in 1944 she approached her father and convinced him she wanted to become a funeral director. She attended Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. After graduating from mortuary school Ruth served her two year apprenticeship at the family funeral home in Buena Vista. About the time she got her funeral director license in early 1948 she met and married Rev. Remo H. Pletcher and they decided to move to Florida for a pastoral calling. Her funeral directing career could have ended there if it had not been for the untimely death of her father Ralph L. Johnson in 1953. Her mother received a widow's license to keep the family business open and asked her daughter to move back to run the family business. This is a time we should celebrate and acknowledge Ruth's commitment to the funeral service profession. She helped her community through good times and bad and raised her family while working fulltime. She was an excellent funeral director who happened to be a woman when most funeral directors were men. When another funeral director recently asked Ruth for any words of wisdom she shared "Treat every family you serve as if it were your own and never turn away people in need". In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband Rev. Remo H. Pletcher

and her son Leslie B. Pletcher. Ruth was a member Buena Vista United Presbyterian Church, the Elizabeth Township Historical Society, and was an honorary member of the Buena Vista VFD Ladies Auxiliary. She is survived by her children Alice Ruth Gallingane, Remo D. (Deborah) Pletcher, and Grace L. (Kenneth) Angelo all of Buena Vista; her grandchildren Kimberly Waligura Denne, Christian Gallingane, Veta (Lee) Randolph, Justin Angelo, Jordan (Samantha) Angelo, and Rachelle Pletcher; five great grandchildren; and a great great granddaughter. Friends will be received from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the Buena Vista United Presbyterian Church, 335 Styche St., Buena Vista, where a funeral service will be held at Noon Monday. Interment will follow in Mount Vernon Cemetery. In lieu of flowers a contribution can be made to Buena Vista United Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 147 Buena Vista, PA 15018. The William Snyder Funeral Home, Irwin, 724-863-1200, is in charge of arrangements. For online condolences please visit snyderfuneralservices.com.

Cemetery Details

Mount Vernon Cemetery

2300 Buena Vista Road
McKeesport, PA 15135

Previous Events

Visitation

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

Buena Vista United Presbyterian Church
335 Styche St.
Buena Vista, PA 15018

Visitation

NOV **25**. 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Buena Vista United Presbyterian Church
335 Styche St.
Buena Vista, PA 15018

Service

NOV **26**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Buena Vista United Presbyterian Church
335 Styche St.
Buena Vista, PA 15018

Tribute Wall



“ *Tena Ruth Johnson Pletcher*

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ *Tena Ruth Johnson Pletcher*

August 23, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ *Ruthie was a wonderful funeral director. She was dedicated to helping others and generously devoted her life to the service of her hometown. My deepest condolences to the Johnson family.*

*Herbert T. Walker,III, CFSP
Walker Funeral Homes
Cincinnati, Ohio*



Herbert Walker - November 01, 2019 at 06:11 PM



“ *Mrs. Johnson was an excellent funeral director. She was a dear friend and I will miss her guidance. My heartfelt condolences to the Johnson family. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Henry Vinson, JD
Funeral Director*



Henry Vinson JD - January 20, 2019 at 06:36 AM

WS

“ I only knew Ruth briefly. As an "out of townner," I met her in the summer of 2016 when I came to help out my dear aunt and uncle. She was a very compassionate and caring lady and did a very good service for me and the family when both passed away within a few months of each other. My condolences to Ruth's family and all of her friends. God bless you.

Wendy Stevens

(Niece of Walter and Flora Campoli)

Wendy Stevens - November 29, 2018 at 05:10 AM

BS

“ Dear Alice, Remo, & Grace,
I am so sad to read about your beloved Mom's passing. Ruth was such a kind, and caring lady. The happiness in her soul shined outward to all that knew her. She helped so much when we lost Ma, and Dad too. She also helped several other folks in my family. Most of all she was a "good friend". And it seems like we have lost a member of our family!

Please accept my sincere sympathies to you all.

Becky Moore Swant

Becky Swant - November 26, 2018 at 03:40 PM

GA

“ Alice: I always enjoyed the conversations I had with your Mother. Her little chats always uplifted me. and I know what a treasure you were to her. Now she rests in the arms of Jesus free from pain and suffering.

Gene Abernathy

Gene Abernathy - November 25, 2018 at 05:20 PM

RD

“ I met Ruth about 40 years ago and actually officiated for a couple of funerals at her funeral home. She was gracious, efficient and truly dedicated to helping people: at her business and at her church. Ruth was a humble, giving and trusted friend to many and she will be missed.

Rev. Larry Dunster, Irwin, Pa.; Columbia, SC

Rev. Larry Dunster - November 25, 2018 at 03:24 PM

BM

“ Oh, dear Ruthie (as I affectionately knew you), you helped so many families, including my own, deal with the loss of loved ones. You were always there whenever I would call for my family or for any of my patients. Thank you for the love and care that you ALWAYS showed. I'll never forget your Mom who you allowed me to care for and how you opened your house when I would visit. The world is truly a bit more empty and sad because you have gone to your everlasting REWARD to be with our Lord and Master--Jesus Christ. Rest in peace my beautiful friend.

Dr Bill Ryckman

Bill Ryckman, MD - November 25, 2018 at 10:07 AM

SP

“ I am so sorry to hear of Ruth's passing. She was a kind and caring woman that I had the pleasure of getting to know while working with my father, Bill Snyder. Also got to know her mother as well. My thoughts and prayers and with you. May God be a comfort to you in this time of sorrow.

Suzie Snyder Paul

Suzie Snyder Paul - November 24, 2018 at 04:31 PM

KJ

“ *Dearest Ruthie: Thanks for sharing your Life's Journey with us....what a wonderful treasure you were...may the light of your spirit shine within our hearts forever!*
Much Love
Ken Forsythe, Jr.
Tull's Florist

Kenneth Forsythe, Jr. - November 23, 2018 at 07:18 PM