



## Anne L. Sexton

August 31, 1927 - January 23, 2026

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a gift in Anne's honor to Saint Christopher Catholic Newman Center, 15207 Kutztown Road, Kutztown, PA. 19530. Also, the service will be Live-streamed to the church's YouTube and Facebook pages.

Anne was born in Newark Memorial Hospital on August 31, 1927, the second of seven children of Arthur McCormick and Anna Mulligan McCormick. She died January 23, 2026, at her son's home in Camp Hill. She was 98.

Anne grew up in Newark, N.J., in a household of music-loving, poetry-loving, fun-loving McCormicks. She entered St. Michael's School in first grade and was quickly skipped ahead to second. Anne was smart as a whip, but often at odds with any strict nun who objected to her talking in class – or talking back.

Her father, the parish sexton, was responsible for the physical plant at St. Michael's: church, rectory, convent and school. A cherished childhood memory was

accompanying her father into  
the church bell tower when he rang the noon hour – and let her hang on to the  
bell cord as the  
bell tolled. A wild ride!

A feisty and curious girl, Anne's world expanded beyond New Jersey when  
she went on a blind  
date and met Thomas Patrick Sexton Jr. She was in high school then, and  
World War II  
intervened, but Tom contacted her when he returned from the war. They  
married in 1950 when  
he was a student at Seton Hall University, on the GI Bill.

In 1951, a few days after Tom gave the Commencement speech at Seton  
Hall's graduation,  
they packed for Mexico. Tom had GI credits remaining and planned to enroll at  
Mexico City  
College to study for his master's degree. Driving to and living in Mexico City  
was the first of  
many adventures they shared. In the decades that followed, they also lived in  
California, Spain,  
Kutztown, Mt. Pocono, Florida and Lemoyne. Anne thrived and grew with  
each experience. She  
learned Spanish as a newlywed and golf in retirement.

Anne's first paying job, when she was 14, was working at the candy counter of  
the Bamberger's  
department store in downtown Newark. As an adult, she worked for the Great  
Atlantic & Pacific  
Tea Company (NJ); the Garden Grove School District (CA) teaching English to  
children of

Mexican immigrants; and, for 14 years, the Catholic Archdiocese of Allentown (PA) as the administrative assistant to the Catholic chaplain at Kutztown State College.

In her life story, which she wrote during the pandemic, Anne dedicated the book to her children and her husband, Tom. “I think of him often and always with a wonderful feeling of how fortunate I have been to be his wife, and to have him as the father of our children. I led a charmed life ...”

Anne is survived by her daughter Sharon (Tom Ferrick) and son Thomas (Barb); her grandchildren T.J. and Cormac Ferrick, Connor and Jacqueline Sexton (Paul); her great-granddaughter Maeve Sexton; and her brother John McCormick and sister Kathleen Helmstetter. She was predeceased by her sisters Mary, Maureen and Ellen, and her brother Arthur. She valued her many friends at Essex House in Lemoyne.

At a later date, her ashes will be interred with her husband's at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 7. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
3435 Trindle Road  
Camp Hill, PA 17011

## Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 7. 10:30 AM (ET)

Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
3435 Trindle Road  
Camp Hill, PA 17011

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# Tribute Wall

CW

“ *Just heard about Anne's passing. I lived at Essex House for a year learning Rummicube from Anne and participating in many discussions with Anne and Tom. They were such warm friendly intelligent people. May their memories always be for a blessing.*

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**Charles Wilson** - April 10 at 01:42 PM