



## Barbara Jean Horst

August 9, 1930 - December 16, 2025

Barbara Jean Horst (Throop), 95, passed away peacefully on December 16, 2025, in Statesville, North Carolina.

Barbara was born on August 9, 1930, in Ashtabula, Ohio, to Orletta Throop (Baylor) and Niles Throop. From the very beginning, she lived life with independence, determination, and a spirit that could not be tamed.

She is lovingly remembered by her brother, Alvin Throop; her daughters, Jayne Nelson, Carole Truesdell (Tim), and Kelley Loudon (Mike); her grandchildren, Matthew Philomeno, Carrie Johnson, Neil Truesdell, Ryan Truesdell, Aleni Loudon, and Brandon Loudon; and her great-grandchildren, Isabella Johnson, Landen Johnson, Myles Truesdell, and Lilian Truesdell, each of whom brought her great pride and joy.

Barbara was preceded in death by her husbands, Edward Leonard and James Horst; her son, Robert Leonard; her siblings, Wallace Throop and Wilbur Throop; and her parents, all of whom she now reunites with.

Art was one of Barbara's greatest passions. She was an avid painter and a proud member of the Ashtabula Artists' Guild, finding joy, peace, and expression through her work. Her creativity extended beyond the canvas and into every part of her life.

In 1995, Barbara moved from Ashtabula, Ohio, to Statesville, North Carolina, where she continued painting through classes at the Statesville Senior Center and built a new community while staying true to herself.

Barbara was a devoted member of Bethesda Presbyterian Church, where she served as a deacon and lived her faith through quiet acts of service. She delighted in packing Easter eggs for neighborhood children, assembling charity boxes sent overseas, and sewing bags and pillowcases for children in foster care. She gave generously, not for recognition, but because helping others was simply who she was.

Known for her feisty spirit, Barbara lived boldly and independently, always doing things her way. She was strong, creative, faithful, and deeply loved.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Bethesda Presbyterian Church or Christian Mission.

Barbara will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who knew and loved her.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Horst family. Condolences may be made to the family at [www.cavin-cook.com](http://www.cavin-cook.com).

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ *She will be deeply missed. Heaven's gain.  
RIP dear lady. Joyce Masters*



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**joyce masters** - December 18, 2025 at 08:10 AM