



## Patricia Ann McHaney

August 28, 1928 - July 28, 2015

Patricia Ann McHaney, age 86, of Pickford, Michigan, died Tuesday, July 28, 2015, in St. Ignace, Michigan. She was born August 28, 1928, in Cadillac, Michigan, to Wilson Redfield Sawyer, Jr. and Annabelle Gladys (Bohley) Sawyer.

Pat grew up in Cadillac and then Traverse City, Michigan, where she graduated from Traverse City High School as Salutatorian of her class. A classically trained pianist, she began her professional music career at age thirteen when she auditioned and won a position as a pianist for a touring jazz and swing band. After high school Pat attended Michigan State University where she studied languages. After meeting her future husband Charles Robert "Bob" McHaney, she switched her major and earned an Associate Degree in Secretarial Science so she could help her husband complete his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees. Pat and Bob lived a joyous life together, well-grounded in their strong love for one another. They would have celebrated their 67th anniversary in September.

After living for several years in Coleman, Morley, and Acme, Michigan, and in Oxford, Massachusetts, the family settled in Pickford in 1955 where they raised their family and Bob taught at the local school. Pat shared her musical talent with the community by playing the piano and the organ at church and local events. She taught countless students how to play the piano, and her piano students were a great joy in her life.

During retirement, Pat and Bob lived in Searcy, Arkansas, for eighteen years,

caring for Bob's parents and enjoying the community there. They returned to Pickford eight years ago.

Pat was a member of the Pickford United Methodist Church, where she served as church organist for many years. She was also a member of the United Methodist Women. In Searcy, Pat attended the United Methodist Church where she sang in the chancel choir and played bells in Joy Belle Choir. Pat also taught Sunday school for many years.

In addition to her love of music, Pat was an avid reader and a lover of languages. She grew up speaking English and some German in her home and, during her life, studied German, Latin, French, Spanish, and Russian. Her special favorite was Russian. She also enjoyed gardening and cooking. Pat will be remembered for her strong Christian faith, her unconditional love for the people – and pets -- in her life, her sense of humor, and her radiant smile. Her husband, children, and grandchildren gave her the greatest joy of all.

She is survived by her husband, Bob; 5 children, Sue Ann (Neil) Harrison of Pickford, Robert Patrick McHaney of Pickford, Roger Wilson (Annette) McHaney of Manhattan, Kansas, and DeTour Village, Michigan, Patricia Kate (Thomas) Walker of Pickford, and John Bruce (Jody Courdill) McHaney of Fennville, Michigan; 11 grandchildren, Neil Douglas (Tonya) Harrison, Jr., Krystal Faith Harrison, Amy Elizabeth McHaney, Mark Evan (Anastasia) McHaney, Matthew Roger McHaney, Megan Rachel McHaney, Erin Rochelle (Logan) Towsley, Katelyn Patricia Walker, Frances (Nick) Maslanka, Amber Lynn (fiancée, Aaron Hamlett) Blue, and Jonathan Logan McHaney; 6 great grandchildren, Taylor and Rylee Harrison, Brya, Gabriel and Mathew Towsley, and Kiegan Hamlett.

Pat is also survived by one brother-in-law Bruce L. (Fay) McHaney; and sisters-in-law Jean Oberlin, Ruth (Mark) Danner, and Linda (Keith) Shelby. Pat was preceded in death by one granddaughter, Koral Kristine Harrison; brother, American composer, Wilson Henry Sawyer (best known for his "Alaskan Symphony") and his wife Maxine Tost Sawyer; and brother-in-law,

Gerald Oberlin.

Services will be held Wednesday, August 5, at the Pickford United Methodist Church. There will be a Gathering Time from 10:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. followed by the Memorial Service beginning at 11:00 A.M.

Private inurnment will be held later in Cottle Cemetery in Marquette Township, Mackinac County, Michigan.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 128, Pickford, MI 49774 or Cedar Cove Assisted Living, P.O. Box 580, Cedarville, MI 49719.

# Cemetery Details

## Cottle Cemetery

5431 E Townline Road  
Pickford, MI 49774

# Previous Events

## Gathering Time

AUG 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

United Methodist Church  
115 E Church St  
Pickford, MI

## Memorial Service

AUG 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

United Methodist Church  
115 E Church St  
Pickford, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Patricia Ann McHaney*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Patricia Ann McHaney*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Patricia Ann McHaney*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Erin, the memories that you have shared of your grandmother show the love that you shared. I will be thinking of you, and your family, during this time.*

*Shawn*

**Shawn Towsley** - August 03, 2015 at 10:30 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann McHaney.*



August 03, 2015 at 10:06 AM

GA

“ *May God Bless You during these difficult days. She always had a smile on her face when she was walking the circle. Bob take care miss you in Searcy.*

*Gwen E. Anderson  
76 Hartwell Circle.*

---

**Gwen E. Anderson** - August 01, 2015 at 03:46 PM

TB

“ *Dear Bob and Family,  
Kay and I would like you all to know we are praying for strength, and the Peace that only our Savior can give. It has been a Blessing to us to have been added to your Christian family. We love you all and may God Bless you always.*

*In His Grip,  
Pastor Tim and Kay Bashore*

---

**timothy bashore** - July 31, 2015 at 07:26 AM

EB

“ *Wishing the McHaney family peace. I am so sorry for the loss of your beloved Pat. Let God replace your grief with hope - your anguish with peace. May your loving memories of Pat bring a smile to your face and calm to your heart. Draw comfort in Christ' promise, "I Am The Resurrection and The Life. The one who exercises faith in me, even though he dies, Will Come To Life."  
(John 11:25)*

---

**Evelyn Brooks** - July 31, 2015 at 07:26 AM

DS

“ Dear Roger and Annette,

*My condolences and deepest sympathy on the passing of Patricia, a beloved mother and mother-in-law.*

*--Diane Swanson  
Manhattan, Kansas*

---

**Diane L. Swanson** - July 30, 2015 at 04:34 PM

SH

“ Sue & Neil, Your mom was one of the sweetest individuals we have ever met and we feel honored to have known her. She had a smile and kind words for everyone. We will miss her. What a beautiful angel she is now playing in God's Symphony!

*Love. Steve & Debbie Harrison*

---

**Steve & Debbie Harrison** - July 30, 2015 at 04:24 PM

CB

“ To Bob & Family,

*Dennis & I sent our heartfelt condolences to you for your loss of Pat.  
Our thoughts & prayers are with you all.*

*Sincerely,  
Cheryl & Dennis Bernard*



---

**Cheryl Bernard** - July 30, 2015 at 10:53 AM

IE

“ Hi Roger,  
Our heart-felt condolences go out to you and the family over the loss of your mom. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this very difficult period.  
Ike Ehie

---

**Ike Ehie** - July 29, 2015 at 05:11 PM

LS

“ McHaney family, as you know your mom was one of the sweetest, godly women that I know. She was so kindhearted and had a deep love for her Savior. She was the best piano teacher--always so kind and giving. I remember many days at the McHaney home with all the different critters: racoon. Also it was such an honor to have Bob and Pat help with MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship). Pat always had the sweetest smile. Praying for you all. She is with her Savior now and knows what we long to know someday what it is like to be face to face with Jesus. Praying for His peace and comfort for the rest of the family that is left here on this earth. She is part of the "great cloud of witnesses" in Hebrews 12:1,2. Love you all and praying for you.  
Jay and Linda Six

---

**Linda Six** - July 29, 2015 at 09:25 AM