



Dr. Barbara Thrash Murphy

March 2, 1931 - June 25, 2026

Dr. Barbara Thrash Murphy, age 95, of Pittsburgh, transitioned on June 25, 2026. Born March 2, 1931, in Chicago, IL, she was the daughter of the late Andrew E. Thrash and Katharyn James Thrash.

Barbara is survived by her brother, Paul L. Thrash of Oakland, CA; children, Deborah L. Murphy, James B. Murphy, Paul L. Murphy all of Pittsburgh; and grandson, Ray Givner of Pittsburgh.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Donna K. Murphy and her brother, Andrew J. Thrash.

Devoted to young children, Barbara retired as a faculty member from the University of Pittsburgh School of Education. She also taught child development in the Pittsburgh Public Schools.

After retirement, Barbara focused her time to volunteer work and writing children's stories. She authored two anthology publications of authors and illustrators of children's books.

Barbara enjoyed traveling and the theatre. Listening to "Ragtime: The Musical" was a favorite while walking on the treadmill; or viewing matinee films at the Manor Theater in Squirrel Hill. Barbara loved to be out and about

at Vintage, Auditing classes at CCAC or attending social and professional club events.

It was a good life, and she will be profoundly missed.

Professional services entrusted to Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd; 930 Center Avenue Blawnox, PA, 15238; www.thomasmsmithfuneralhome.com.