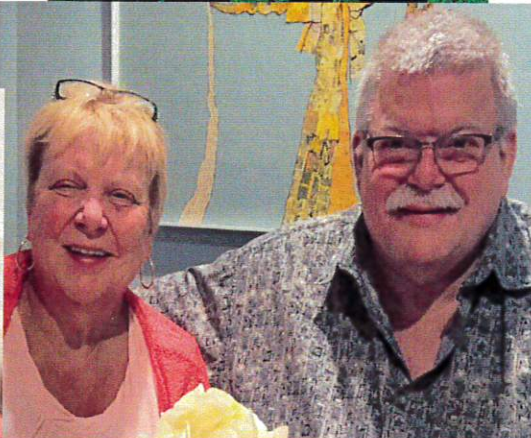




"My little flower girl" Ruth Kurtz



Not sisters by blood,
but sisters by heart.



In Loving Memory

**Cindy
(Czarnota)
Miller**



**March 29, 1949 -
May 24, 2022**

We dedicate this year's apple fritters to Cindy (Czarnota) Miller, a well-loved, longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church.

Many of you will remember the high-spirited 'Apple Fritter Queen'. She carried on her mother's tradition of always tasting the first apple fritter of the festival making sure it was up to par. She loved to chat with customers and give out free apple fritters to both children and veterans alike. She took much joy in delivering fritters to shut-ins, TV stations, and our First Responders. She was so proud of her mom's recipe and wanted to share it with everyone! Cindy was a driving force in our Apple Fritter Operation - giving her all, and offering her honest opinion in a way only Cindy could.

She will be remembered for her wonderful cooking, her event ideas, and her incredible desire to help those in need by constantly sharing her time and treasures. Cindy volunteered countless hours at Bread for Life, Southington Community Services and the Prudence Crandall Center and encouraged others to do so as well. She was so proud of her parents' service to our country (both serving during World War II), and spread wreaths and flags throughout the years in their honor.

Cindy, you are truly missed by your Zion Family and will remain forever in our hearts.

To my sister from another mother. I could not have asked for a better friend. I miss our daily chats and texts and I will always cherish the memories of our road-trips and adventures. Thank you for your kind and generous heart. You brought joy and happiness to all who had the pleasure of knowing you. You will be in my heart until we meet again.
Love you, Joan Cockcroft  

When you spend time at a lot of churches you start to see archetypes of people, the ones who are on property committees, the ones who always show up early, the ones who never want recognition... and often the phrase "so-and-so really broke the mold" is tossed around like the highest of superlatives.

Saying that Cindy Miller broke the mold, would be a great understatement. There is no mold for her. The joy with which she loved life, the care she had for all people, that uncanny ability she had to "tell you how it is" and bop you on the head, while smiling that affirming smile that let you know it was all from a good place.

There's no mold for Cindy. For those of us blessed to get to know her, we know that she was a force of nature, a force of friendship, care, trust, & support.

Cindy has left us all with a hole that cannot be filled, though more than that, she has given us a vision, of just how much good each and every one of us can do.

-Pastor Dan Hille

I don't know how you ever were able to fill all the booth shifts for all those years! I wish you could have let me in on your secret persuasion tactics! You are truly the most generous person I know and I just have to say, if you happen to find that pound of \$100s you always talked about, please send them down (with some angels to help in the booth!)

Missing you more than you know.

-Love, Krista

Cindy was the best friend, the best cook and always had the perfect recipe ready to share. She helped everyone and anyone who needed it. Always lending a hand, a hug and her heart. Cindy was a treasure and will be forever missed.

-Frida Fries

When I interviewed with Zion's Council, Cindy Miller may have been the toughest interviewer and asked the most questions. I thought that if I got called to Zion, I would have to "be on my toes" around Cindy.

Fast forward to my first few days at Zion. I was trying to figure out what my days off would be. When I talked to her about it, she said "make sure you take your time off". She wanted to make sure I was taking care of myself. She also gave me lots of inside information and advice for me as I started at Zion. She was always looking out for me in a very caring way.

I wasn't alone. Cindy looked out for and cared for many people. Most of the inside information and advice Cindy gave me was people at Zion who needed pastoral care.

Cindy made me a better pastor by remembering to check on those who needed some extra care. She continues to "keep me on my toes".

-Pastor Jeff

My wife Micki and I lived in our house for over 17 years.

Micki had COPD and she was home bound for many years and on holidays or out of the clear blue sky Cindy would come with a basket of food, or a meal, or some candy. Micki was so weak and was so thrilled that someone would take the time to come see her. I asked Pastor that when he gave one of his sermons that he let the people in the church know that we felt there were angels among us and that Cindy was one of them, and now I know she is a real angel.

-Bogey

"She was a magician in the kitchen! I loved cooking with her!"

Cindy was one of the first people I met at Zion. I will miss her calling me "cheeka" when she would see me. She always asked about my family. Over the years the beautiful memories I will cherish the Chilli cook offs, woman's group, filling Easter eggs with Dot, coffee hour, Sloper picnic and of course the Fritter Booth. You have done so much for our church and community and all your hard work and dedication doesn't go unnoticed. I love you and miss you.

-Carol Wright

Cindy, it seems that with every passing day, I realize more and more what a hole you have left in our lives. You made everyone feel like they were a part of your family and were always looking out for us. You brought your special touch to every celebration. I miss hearing your voice in my ear with your kind words, letting me know when people were in need or when someone should be recognized for going above and beyond, reminding me of things to do or reprimanding me in a way only you could when I should have done better. You are truly missed. Keep watch over us and make sure we continue to try to carry on your legacy by spreading kindness not only within our Zion family, but with our neighbors and throughout our community as well.

-Love John Miller

Cindy was a beautiful soul inside and out. She always did EVERYTHING she could think of to make the lives of those around her better. Cindy was my confidant, my office-mate, my encyclopedia of knowledge on where to find anything I needed (and even things I didn't know I needed.) But most of all, Cindy was my friend. She made me feel special everyday. I can't imagine a world without her in it, yet I am certain this world is a better place because of Cindy and the lives she touched. I can still hear her singing about "Dirty Lil" and "Beer in Heaven" and asking me anytime I did an errand to bring her back "a pound of \$100s." Cindy, you were always so kind to my family and treated them as your own; you will be missed more than words can say, each and every day. Love you my friend. P.S. I will do my best to talk to the plants.

- Christine & Frank K. (aka Mr.Cruz) ...and Riley too.

Cindy was the Gathering Place 'unofficial greeter' to all on Sat. or Sun. Services. She welcomed all, old and young, visitors, special needs individuals (who looked forward to seeing her) and she always made each feel that they belonged. I first met Cindy when she returned to Zion after her father died. She returned home to care for her Mother. Her Mother was beginning to show early stages of dementia. Cindy kept her mother involved which grew difficult at times yet she tried. She was determined to give her the love she had for her. At times as the dementia progressed it was frustrating and Cindy spoke with me about it. Then she carried on at the same time still being involved with helping others and being a friend to all. She was a "character"! Cindy had a strong faith as I found in our discussions over the years and I do miss her but I Believe that she is "flying with the Angels".

- Ruth Wilson

Remembered in so many ways: the first person you would see when walking into church for the 4pm service. Sitting comfortably on the sofa, with a huge, "hello". She spoke her mind, whether good or not so good, giving you something to think about. She had the largest heart I ever encountered in the things she loved..to cook,...to give away ...lend a hand... remembering shut in's....newborns, children, teens, college age, and the less fortunate. Never ending, always enduring gifts from her heart and soul to so many of us everywhere. Dedicated to Zion, from fritters to beyond, dedicated to God. RIP friend.

- Lois Garafola

It's very difficult to encapsulate Cindy's essence words - words were never needed... She simply knew when someone needed something - whether it was just a hug, a visit, encouragement, a meal - I could go on and on but she was one of God's really special people here on Earth and now He has called her home to be with her beloved parents Dot and Larry and all the other saints - For she truly was an extraordinary saint while she was here on Earth with us.

- Cara Rockwood

My impression was that she had a plan and goals to make her church community cohesive and vibrant and FUN. She always wanted something special at our group gatherings and events. So I remember the chocolate fountain and dipped strawberries.

She told everyone setting up to stay away from that fountain until she gave instructions for its use. And " please !... keep the little ones from washing their hands in the chocolate. I'll help them. I think their gonna really enjoy this. "..... they did and the rest of us " church ladies " stayed away.

I just thought she was the greatest. A problem solver. A loyal friend and truly practicing her faith in action and love for us. Her people.

- Jacqueline Willametz

**Cindy, I miss
our lunches
together!
Love, Lee Bluis**

**Dear Cindy,
We will miss you at all
the kid's activities,
too.
Love Quinn & Toni**

**Cindy,
Enjoy the
Fritter!
Miss you.
-Poppy**



Cindy, Your laugh and smile will live in my heart forever. I love you my birthday buddy.
- Lydia Holbrook

I will try to make the best coffee I can! Forever in my heart.
Love, Lois

Cindy, Your energy, smile, laughter and passion for Zion are missed. That being said, you are a part of our souls as you fly amongst us with God's other angels. -Pam & Jim Turner

Dear Cindy, You had such a giving heart and always worked tirelessly to help others. Love you always, Mary and Helmut

Thanks for leaving the picnic 'chowder duty' to me! Missing you!
Love, Betty Lou

Cindy, Your generosity and love for people...never to be forgotten. Love,
Frank & Marilyn

Goodbyes are so hard. So Cindy... See you again.
- Dawne Cappellino

My husband and I have had lots of memories of Cindy and also her parents. One of the stories is when Cindy came to watch two of our daughters when I went to the hospital for number three. Also did lot's more with her out and around. - Elfriede Kiesling

Dear Miss Cindy, Thank you so much for the delicious fritters! It is so nice of you to always make them for us.
Love, Pre-K class, Zion Christian Nursery School

When I posted a picture of my granddaughter Olivia on Facebook, Cindy would always remember it and bring it up in conversation or would bring me a gift to give her... the gingerbread house and the snowman mug and the hot cocoa bomb in it. When we got our dog Toby, she would love to be the recipient of his many kisses. Toby got his Advent dog calendar from Cindy. She was always so sweet. My favorite memory was when the Council was going to interview Pastor Jeff. We wanted to have the meeting somewhere more intimate and relaxed than the Gathering Space. I called John Miller to offer our home. He gladly accepted and sent out an email to the Council letting them know. Within minutes our phone rang and it was Cindy. She thanked me for hosting the meeting and she offered to make the delicious main course. She just was sooo special. That day she arrived early to make sure all was ready. A great night was had by all. She always made me feel welcomed even if she always called me... "Mrs. Troffitt" that is what would appear on the phone when I called the church. I miss that constant friend who was always there.
-Lisa Proffitt

The beautiful memories I have of Cindy...we used to go for car rides; she would pick me up and we go do our nails together. We all know how generous Cindy was, she always paid for me, she checked in on me all the time, and when I was not feeling well, Cindy would get medicine and soup for me. If I ever needed anything, Cindy was there for me. I miss all the talks and the hugs; I miss telling her to drive safe. Cindy was a very good friend. I did love her and I know she loved me too. I will always be grateful to her. Miss you and love you Cindy.
- Mavis Owusu (Ruth Kurtz' caregiver)

**Don't Fret
it,
Fritter it!**

How do you say 'Thank You' to the angel that saved your life?
Love you and miss you more than you know my treasured friend.
-Sue Skrzypiec