



## Donna L. Harris - Pelz

February 22, 1939 - March 22, 2025

Donna L. Harris - Pelz, 86 of Bluffton, passed away on Saturday afternoon, March 22, 2025, at Byron Health Center in Fort Wayne.

She was born on February 22, 1939, in Marion, Indiana to Albert & Lucile (Kirkpatrick) Myer. After graduating from Sweetser High School in 1957, Donna completed her Associate of Science from Purdue University in 1971 and went back to Purdue to earn her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing in 1983. She worked as a registered nurse at Caylor-Nickel Clinic, Wells Community Hospital and the V.A. Hospital in Fort Wayne, until she retired in 2001.

She was a longtime member of the Bluffton First Nazarene Church, Nurses Organization of Veteran's Affairs, American Nursing Association, and Indiana Nurses Association.

On May 30, 1959, in Jalapa, Indiana, Donna married Paul R. Harris. They shared 34 years of marriage before he preceded her in death on December 24, 1993. On May 19, 1995, Donna married Raymond G. Pelz in Bluffton. He preceded her in death on June 22, 2019.

Survivors include her daughters; MaDonna (Erick) Butler of Fort Wayne and Paula Brown of Bluffton She is also survived by her step-children; Greg (Shelly) Pelz, Rhonda (Chris) Freeman and Robin (Charles) Blomeke, all of Fort Wayne, along with 4 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, 11 step-grandchildren and 5 step-great-grandchildren.

She is also survived by 2 brothers, Larry (Beth) Myer of Greentown and Gene

Myer of Van Buren, Indiana and a half-brother, Brad (Margaret) White of Coatesville, IN.

Donna is preceded in death by her parents, husbands and a stepson, Chris Pelz and 2 step-grandchildren.

Visitation will take place from 3 P.M. to 7 P.M. on Friday, (March 28, 2025) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home and for one hour prior to the service.

Funeral services will take place at 10:30 A.M. on Saturday, (March 29, 2025) at the funeral home with Chaplin John Eakin and Pastor Mike Tarr officiating.

Burial will take place at Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, Disabled American Veterans or to the Bluffton First Nazarene Church.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send condolences online to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124  
Bluffton, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 28. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

## Visitation

MAR 29. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

## Funeral Service

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MAR 29. 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donna L. Harris - Pelz*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - March 28, 2025 at 04:15 PM

PA

*Been a little over 4 months since you passed Mom and miss you dearly.*

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**Paula** - July 28, 2025 at 02:29 AM

TH

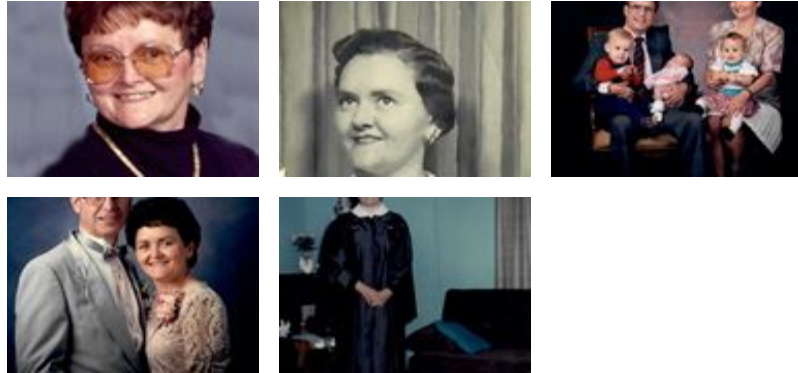
“ *With heartfelt condolences, I'm thinking of you and sending love and prayers. May the memories you share of Donna bring you peace.*

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**Terry Habegger** - March 28, 2025 at 03:16 PM



“ 74 files added to the album Life Tributes



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - March 26, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Donna's passing. I worked with her at Wells Community. She was a very nice lady. I know she will be missed.



Cindy Monticue - March 24, 2025 at 08:54 PM



“ Larry Myer Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Donna L. Harris - Pelz.



Larry Myer Family - March 24, 2025 at 08:52 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donna L. Harris - Pelz.



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March 24, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donna L. Harris - Pelz.

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March 24, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ Rainbow Reflections Basket was purchased for the family of Donna L. Harris - Pelz.



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March 24, 2025 at 02:33 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donna L. Harris - Pelz.

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March 24, 2025 at 02:33 PM