



## Phyllis Ann Fecher

September 23, 1932 - January 4, 2026

Phyllis Ann (McCord) Fecher, 93, passed away January 4, 2026, at Rush Memorial Hospital. She was born September 23, 1932, to Forrest Valentine McCord and Virginia Agnes (Smither) McCord; the fourth of six children and the last of her siblings to pass. On December 23, 1960, she married Vernon Dean Fecher, a fellow educator and beloved partner, who also passed before her on January 19, 1992.

Phyllis earned her Bachelor's in Education (1959) and Master of Arts in Education (1964) from Ball State Teachers College. She taught elementary school in Rushville for many years, retiring in 1991. Early in her career, she and nine fellow teachers formed the "Singing T's," traveling to share music in churches and schools – an experience she always treasured.

A lifelong reader and dedicated genealogist, Phyllis loved tracing her family history and traveling to the places connected to her roots. She was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, where she served as secretary, historian, vice regent, and regent. She similarly volunteered with the National Historical Society, where she served as secretary and treasurer, spending countless hours carefully cataloging and preserving artifacts. She was further active in the Milroy Study Club and Psi Iota Xi.

Phyllis had a steady heart for service and a sharp interest in the world around her. A proud Democrat and engaged citizen, she happily worked the polls on Election Day and later served her community as township assessor. She remained active in the Retired Teachers Association as secretary and

volunteered with the Rushville Literacy Program, helping many individuals learn English.

Raised in the church, Phyllis became especially active and was baptized after Vernon's passing. She taught 3rd and 4th grade Sunday School, served as Bible School secretary, counted the offering, and helped with the Encouragers, a volunteer group that provided meals for church members. Her quiet acts of care meant a great deal to many, extending to animals as well, as Phyllis was a great lover of cats and birds.

Phyllis is survived by her daughters, Beth Ann (Gordon) Stiers of Brownsburg and Linda Kay Laker (fiancé, Matt Parsons) of Manilla; five grandchildren, Joshua Allen (Bailey Harding) Stiers, Heath Christopher (Ashley Moffett) Laker, Kelsey Nicole (Erick) Opiyo (née Stiers), Mason McCord Laker (fiancé, Alexandra Van Vactor), and Regan Alyssa Laker; and four great-grandchildren, Kendra and Kallie Laker and Everett and "Baby" Opiyo. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

While neither page nor passage can capture her life, Phyllis was deeply loved, and her kindness, steady presence, and devotion to others will be carried forward by all who knew her. She will be dearly missed and always remembered.

Graveside Services will be held Friday, January 9, 2026 at 11 AM in Raleigh Cemetery with Pastor Darryl Denney presiding.

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JAN 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Moster Mortuary  
334 North Main Street  
Rushville, IN 46173  
(765) 932-3914  
info@mostermortuary.com  
<https://www.mostermortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ *Linley Brinker-Harding & Clarke Harding purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Phyllis Ann Fecher.*



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**Linley Brinker-Harding & Clarke Harding** - January 08 at 01:41 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Fecher.*



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January 08 at 11:12 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Phyllis Ann Fecher.*



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January 06 at 03:03 PM

SG

“ *Scott Gorman lit a candle in memory of Phyllis Ann Fecher*



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**Scott Gorman** - January 05 at 05:45 PM

SG

“ *Mrs. Fecher was my elementary school teacher. I will never forget the day we moved o Rushville from Knox, IN. I didn't want to move, I didn't want to be at RES, I didn't want to leave my former school. Mrs. Fecher comforted me, she nurtured me, and encouraged me to give it a chance. From that day forward, she and Mrs. McCarty were my all-time favorite elementary school teachers. teachers. What a loss to our community. We kept in touch for many, many years. Gone but never forgotten.*

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**Scott Gorman** - January 05 at 05:42 PM

CN

*So sorry for the family's loss. Prayers.*

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**Ceilia Nigh** - January 05 at 06:48 PM

HR

*She was a sweet lady and a great neighbor*

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**Helen Richardson** - January 05 at 08:29 PM

BS

*Thank you, Scott, for your story!*

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**Beth Stiers** - January 06 at 06:52 PM

BE

*Thank you, Ceilia and Helen!*

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**Beth** - January 06 at 08:27 PM

CS

*No  
Matter the age, so difficult to loss one who gave us birth & nurtured us all thru life. She was a fantastic Woman. When is her 'replacement' due? 🤔??*

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**Charles stiers** - January 08 at 01:33 AM

MV

*I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Mrs. Fecher after the passing of Vernon who was my high school accounting and drivers education teacher.*

*She was such a kind and compassionate person who had many interests and was engaged in serving her community and others.*

*May the family find comfort in the many fond memories you shared with her during your lifetime.*

*Marc Veatch*

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**Marcus Veatch** - January 13 at 09:48 AM

PC

*My acquaintance with Phyllis came through our Alpha Beta Chapter (now dissolved) of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for women in education. As the treasurer for many years, I had the opportunity to get to know the members who hailed from Fayette, Franklin, and Rush counties. Phyllis is one person I particularly recall, although it has been many years since we had had any contact.*

*The tribute written on this website by one of her former students who was "nurtured" by the care and comfort of Phyllis [and I assume Margaret McCarthy, another former DKG colleague] when he had had to move from his former school to a new location in Rushville (many miles away!) speaks volumes about how teachers routinely extend their professional skills to help those in their care when personal issues can stand in the way of learning. Phyllis was one of those who went the extra mile to help her students, with memories that lingered with them for many years.*

*"Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"*

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**Peggy Hollingsworth, Connersville** - January 21 at 05:23 PM