



## RUTH TOWNSEND

March 6, 1937 - June 18, 2025

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, MEMORIAL DONATIONS MAY BE MADE IN RUTH'S NAME TO:

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT NEWFOUNDLAND  
PO BOX 288  
NEWFOUNDLAND, NJ 07435

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

SATURDAY: JULY 19, 2025

11AM

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT NEWFOUNDLAND  
65 LA RUE ROAD  
NEWFOUNDLAND, NJ 07435

973-697-2877

Ruth T. Townsend, 88 years, of West Milford, NJ, passed away on Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

She was born on March 6, 1937 in Saddle Brook, NJ to the late Bernice L. Elmendorf and the late Frank J. Terhune.

Ruth married Douglas Townsend in 1962 and reside in West Milford, NJ where they raised their four children.

In 1998 Ruth earned her Master in Divinity from Drew University and in 1999 she became an Ordained Minister.

For many years Ruth was the Director of the Passaic County Head Start School in Wanaque, NJ; the Director of Education as well as a Diaconal Minister at the United Methodist Church at Newfoundland and a substitute teacher.

As a lifelong, faithful parishioner of the United Methodist Church at Newfoundland, Ruth sang in the choir and played the handbells.

She was predeceased by her sisters Barbara Muth (2024) and Patricia Coover (2000).

Ruth is survived by her beloved husband Douglas; her loving children David Townsend and his wife Jean, Mary Weaver and her husband Joe, Stephen Townsend and his wife Lurna, and John Townsend; her cherished grandchildren Jessica Weaver Wroblewski and her husband PJ, Kevin Townsend and his wife TiffanI, Rebecca Townsend Schultz and her husband Brad, Jennifer Weaver Rose and her husband Matt, Daniel Townsend, Emily Townsend Pepper and her husband Michael, and Megan Townsend; her adored great grandchildren Kathleen Wroblewski, Caleb Rose, Arianna Rose, Paul Wroblewski, Benjamin Townsend, Chloe Schultz, and Nicholas Townsend; as well as many dear nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will take place on Saturday, July 19, 2025 at 11am at the United Methodist Church at Newfoundland, 65 La Rue Road, Newfoundland, NJ 07435.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Ruth's name to the United Methodist Church at Newfoundland, PO Box 288, Newfoundland, NJ 07435.

On line condolences and directions: [www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com](http://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL **19**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

United Methodist Church at Newfoundland

65 La Rue Road

Newfoundland, NJ 07435

<http://973-697-2877>

# Tribute Wall

GC

“ No words can ease your pain but know that the entire Townsend family is in my prayers. A life well lived, faithful servant. Gail Custer

Gail Custer - July 21, 2025 at 10:09 AM

ED

“ Elizabeth D. purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of RUTH TOWNSEND.



Elizabeth D. - July 15, 2025 at 03:50 PM

LJ

“ Love John, Debbie, and Uncle John purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of RUTH TOWNSEND.



Love John, Debbie, and Uncle John - July 15, 2025 at 03:41 PM

BG

“ Condolences and sincere sympathy to the Townsend family. I will always remember her beautiful voice when she sang at my church wedding.

Barbara Gould - June 29, 2025 at 05:39 PM

BG

“ *Ruth is my cousin. We have many memories of her especially at the family reunions. She sang beautiful music at my church wedding in 1969. I will always remember her contagious laugh and her friendliness no matter how often we saw her. Now she is joined with her family and will rest peacefully.*

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**Barbara Gould** - June 29, 2025 at 05:36 PM