



Jack L. McSherry Jr.

August 29, 2026

On August 29, 2026, Jack L. McSherry, Jr. entered his new and eternal life without pain or fear. Passing in his home, surrounded by his family. He held the hand of his wife of 68 years, Irmgard, to the end. He was 98 years old. A kind and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

A talented engineer, artist, writer, and musician.

Born in Shamokin PA., being the son of Jack L. McSherry and Ivy (Burrell), he lived in both Sunnyside and Tharptown during the depression. He described his childhood as ideal and paradise due to the care of his parents. Later graduating from Coal Twp. High School.

Following in the steps of father and two brothers, he joined the Navy Reserves, on his 17th birthday, serving in WWII. With the end of the war, he enlisted in the regular Navy and served in the occupation of the Mediterranean, Italy, and North Africa. He was Quartermaster and expert helmsman on a cruiser.

When discharged, he completed a 4-year engineer program in 3 years and began practice in 1952.

He met his wife-to-be, Irmgard Karau, in 1957 and was married in 1958. They formed a family in Conestoga, PA, with 3 children: Ellen Harter (Steve), Jack

McSherry III (Bonnie), and Patrick McSherry (Dianna). This was followed by 7 grandchildren: Lee, Kayla, Curtis, Christina, Shawn, Justin, and Cody. Also, 6 great-grandchildren.

He formed his own engineering firm, Jack L. McSherry, Jr., Inc., in 1976. He took pride in solving engineering problems that others couldn't. He maintained an active license until his death, practicing for 74 years and being the oldest engineer in PA. He maintained that he would retire when he got old enough.

After turning 90, he began writing books on engineering and history. His bestseller is "The Many Dumb Things I Did in My Life".

The world will be a lesser place without him.

A Funeral Service will be held at The Groffs Family Funeral Home, 528 W. Orange St., Lancaster, PA, on Saturday, September 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., with Pastor Eric Brubaker officiating. The family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. until the time of service. Interment will follow.

Cemetery Details

Saint Peters Reformed Cemetery

739 Airport Road
Paxinos, PA 17860

Previous Events

Viewing

SEP 5. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Funeral Service

SEP 5. 10:00 AM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
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Graveside

SEP **5** (ET)

Saint Peters Reformed Cemetery
739 Airport Road
Paxinos, PA 17860

Tribute Wall

JG

“ We learned to know the McSherry family around 1996 when I began to pastor at Byerland Church. Jack and his son offered their engineering/surveying services to the church and our home. Jack's heart was one that was full of generosity and love for people. We are grateful to God for how our paths have intersected which I am sure has been mutually beneficial. May the blessing of God be upon his wife Irmgard and the entire family. Joe and Yvonne Garber

Joe C. Garber - Yesterday at 08:21 AM

MB

“ There is a reason they are called “The GREATEST Generation.” For everyone who ever met Jack L. McSherry Jr. this has been affirmed. Today I give Thanks for the Life of Jack L. McSherry, Jr. As with so many of us who had the privilege to have known Jack , I have been inspired by his example and legacy that he leaves for us. Jack had a request in recent years to find a scrapple recipe that he longed for. A recipe from long ago. We searched all over PA. and beyond for the right scrapple with the perfect taste! Everyone involved wanted to be the one to find it! Unfortunately, we never were able to find a duplicate tasting piece of scrapple. At the least I Hope Jack enjoyed all the samples we uncovered for him to try. Some tasted better than others and some not so good. When he shared with the raccoon, you knew that was not a good sample of scrapple. To Irmgard , Jack L. McSherry III , Bonnie, Christina, Patrick, Ellen, and your entire families. It is with Deep Love and Sympathy that I share your sadness during this difficult time of loss. Marc A. Brumbach

MARC A. Brumbach - Yesterday at 07:45 AM

PM

“ 3 files added to the album Jack



Patrick McSherry - September 03 at 10:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jack L. McSherry Jr..



September 03 at 07:51 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jack L. McSherry Jr..

September 03 at 07:51 PM

PM

“ Dad, you are loved more than you know. Memories of our times together are many and very cherished!

Patrick McSherry - September 02 at 11:54 PM

SY

Patrick

I think there is never a day one wants to lose their Dad. I am sorry for your loss and deeply hope memories sustain you. I was quite fond of him, by no means close...a client, old acquaintance...but still someone I'd look for in every crowd. He contributed so much the folks he met, in so many domains, just with a smile and wry wit. I can only imagine how deeply he will be missed. Heart felt condolences to your family.

Sandy Yecker

Sandra Yecker - September 03 at 09:36 AM

PM

“ 8 files added to the album Jack



Patrick McSherry - September 02 at 11:19 PM

LA

“ *"Pop" McSherry was a great guy and a joy to talk to. My fondest memories of Jack were his days with Independent Battery I. and Civil War re-enacting. RIP Jack.*



Larry Alexander - September 02 at 08:47 PM

LC

“Lancaster Metals Science Corp. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jack L. McSherry Jr..



Lancaster Metals Science Corp. - September 02 at 12:40 PM

LC

“Lancaster Metals Science Corp. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jack L. McSherry Jr..

Lancaster Metals Science Corp. - September 02 at 12:40 PM

PM

“4 files added to the album Jack



Patrick McSherry - September 01 at 09:39 AM

MS

“ Mike and Cheryl Mc Sherry purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jack L. McSherry Jr..



Mike and Cheryl Mc Sherry - September 01 at 08:07 AM

LE

“ We will never be the same
As we were before this loss
But are Ever so much better
For having had someone
So great to lose.
Love to all,
Linda J. Elliott

Linda J Elliott - September 01 at 07:47 AM

NB

*In deep appreciation for your service to this great country
Many your legacy live on through your children and grandchildren
Sending prayers for the family as you celebrate a life well lived*

Nancee b - September 02 at 08:44 AM



“ Thanks for all you have done. I will miss you.

Brian Miller - September 01 at 02:54 AM

AH

“Auguste, Franz, Wynn and Jordi Heymann purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Jack L. McSherry Jr..



Auguste, Franz, Wynn and Jordi Heymann - August 31 at 07:15 PM

AH

“Auguste, Franz, Wynn and Jordi Heymann planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jack L. McSherry Jr..

Auguste, Franz, Wynn and Jordi Heymann - August 31 at 07:15 PM

SC

“Worked on several projects in Wrightsville with Jack & Jack. It seemed the more complicated project the more he enjoyed it. Jack you will be truly missed.

Steve Conti - August 31 at 05:49 PM

JM

“Love you!
Jack, Bonnie and Christina.



Jack McSherry - August 31 at 04:57 PM