

## ALICE MOULTON BARKER



Alice Moulton was born December 18, 1918 in Lucasville, the daughter of Arthur and Bertha Rockwell Moulton. Her siblings included Helen, Arthur, Harold, and Phyllis. She grew up in Lucasville a spirited and happy girl. Alice graduated from Valley High School in 1935.

She married first to Robert Daum, then second to Thomas Barker. She had two children, Wicki Phillips (Paul) and Thomas (Becky) Barker. Alice also had four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and five great-great grandchildren,

Professionally, Alice dedicated 42 years to Atlas Fashions in Portsmouth, Ohio. She served the organization in multiple roles, including manager, buyer and salesperson. Until her death, Alice entertained friends and family with stories from Atlas during wartime and her train trips to New York City in a sleeper car. She also recalled with detail, bridal parties she dressed and fashions of the time.

Socially, Alice participated in a number of Lucasville civic organizations. She was a founding member of the Lucasville Area Historical Society, serving as its librarian & historian. For many years, Alice stored the archives and collection of the historical society in an upstairs room of her home. Later, when she purchased the Wolfe residence & shop next door, she allowed the society to house its collection in the small shop next to the Wolfe home. She also greatly contributed to the archives and to the collection, donating many items and collecting many more photos, stories, journals, and letters.

Alice was also instrumental in revitalizing the Valley Alumni Association and its scholarship fund. The Alumni Association has given hundreds of thousands of scholarships to worthy Valley graduates. Alice was also active in the Lucasville Garden Club and the Lucasville Stitch & Chatter Sewing Club.

Alice acted as a living history exhibit for the community where she was born and died and was often consulted by authors and reporters seeking information on Lucasville residents or history.

Many fondly remember seeing Alice riding on her vintage bicycle through Lucasville or walking every morning to the post office, collecting mail for herself and many of her neighbors and family. In her life, she was often called “the unofficial mayor of Lucasville”, a title she jokingly accepted.

Alice spent many hours in the Lucasville Cemetery, particularly on Memorial Day weekends, when she would assist family members in locating the graves of their loved ones. She would often say, with a giggle and a smile, “I have more friends in the cemetery than I do alive!”

Alice also saved many old historical homes and helped others obtain old houses so they could be preserved. She herself saved the McNamer house (“my husband threw a fit when he found its cellar was full of water”, she later said) and the Joseph Appel house, which she proudly shared with the community. It is in this house that Alice passed away on August 18, 2016, age 97. Given her love of fashion, Alice requested people don colorful attire for the viewing and the burial—she wanted it known that she found white shoes to be boring and unimaginative. Alice is buried in Lucasville Cemetery.