

# Pamela Prime Harlan

Born: Nov. 2, 1916; New York City;  
Died: July 6, 1987, Solebury, PA

**Pamela Prime Harlan** was not an Activist or Artist, but I have included her in this series of portraits because she is my mother. She was a ground breaker in her own way. She left a life of privilege and built a simpler life as a “farm wife” and mother of six, with my father, Alfred Halle Sinks who was a Writer, Editor and Conservationist. They left New York City and bought a 72 acre farm in Bucks County, PA. My father got up at 6:30 AM each morning and milked several cows before leaving for work as a magazine editor. My mother pasteurized the milk and made butter. She grew our own vegetables in a huge “truck garden.” She was a fantastic baker, baking healthy breads and amazing cakes. She also helped my father and brother to bale our own hay, driving the John Deere tractor. She knitted very complex sweaters, sang in a choir, and made our paper dolls and Halloween costumes, along with caring for six kids. I never knew the woman whose images we discovered preserved in a forgotten photo album at the back of my sister’s closet. In it were newspaper clippings and photos of my mother, as a debutante, a young bride, and a glamorous subject for the world renowned photographer Edward Steichen.

