



Dorothy Gloria Kinaci

February 1, 1934 - August 14, 2020

Dorothy G. Kinaci passed away peacefully in her sleep on August 14th, 2020 in Ocoee, FL. She was born on February 1 st , 1934 in Manchester, NH, an only child to her extremely proud parents Alexander and Evelyn Provencal.

At an early age, Dorothy decided she wanted to teach and graduated from Keene Teachers College in 1961 becoming the first college graduate in her family. Being a teacher became a part of her identity, a source of personal pride. She spent most of her career teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).

In 1962, Dorothy moved with her young family to Istanbul, Turkey, where she spent the better part of twenty years teaching middle school students English at the American Academy for Girls. She was extremely loved and respected by students and colleagues, who stayed in touch with her through the following decades.

She returned to the States in 1982 and continued teaching ESL at several schools in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Teaching was such a passion that she even taught at a minimum security facility past retirement. Upon finally putting away her red pen, she moved to California and then to Florida. For many years, she continued splitting her time visiting her daughters and family in each of these three states before settling in Florida.

Dorothy was extremely proud of her grandsons and used to joke that raising boys seemed easier than raising her three daughters. She enjoyed an easygoing relationship with each of her grandsons, engaging them in conversation whenever she could, often surprising them with unexpected commentary in order to get a rise or a laugh out of them. She attended as many of her grandson's events as she could, never missing a performance, sporting event, school family day or graduation. She was always their biggest cheerleader.

Dorothy had a variety of interests throughout her life. She was a woman of strong faith, attending church weekly and often praying specifically to see her loved ones through challenges. As an avid reader Dorothy participated in many book groups enjoying the social side of reading with others. She was a stylish dresser, with an impressive collection of clothes, scarves, earrings and shoes, and prided herself in never having a hair out of place.

She had a wonderful sense of humor and her story-telling was second to none. Dorothy followed the evening news and worked on the daily crossword puzzles diligently. She had a real appreciation for good food, with lobster and vanilla ice-cream being among her favorites. She was a big fan of horse races, which she particularly enjoyed attending in person. She also took pleasure in following golf and tennis on TV surprising others with her knowledge about various athletes. In her younger years, she was an accomplished ballroom dancer and throughout her life she enjoyed the arts, going to movies and plays. She especially loved musical theater.

Dorothy touched countless lives, including her students around the world. She took pride in the many life-long friendships she had maintained and was much loved and admired. She will be greatly missed by all those who were lucky enough to know her.

She is survived by her daughters Pam Bozkurt from Florida, Suzan Kinaci and partner Steve from New Hampshire and Filiz Crocker and husband Robert from California; her grandsons Taylan Bozkurt from Georgia, Andrew Kinaci and his wife Smitha from Illinois, and James and Alexander Crocker from California.

Due to the current pandemic, the service will be private. Plans for an online memorial will be announced soon.

In lieu of flowers, we would prefer donations in her name be made to any of the following:

UNICEF (<https://donate.unicef.org/>)

FIRST BOOK (<https://firstbook.org/>)

or to the ROOM TO READ (<https://www.roomtoread.org/>).

Tribute Wall



“ *That Christmas we spent with you and your family always holds a special place in my heart. May you rest in eternal peace Dorothy.*
Leyla

Leyla Toriyen-Heggie - August 21, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ *Dear Mrs Kinaci, you were one of the reasons that made AAG so special for me. Your grace and twinkling eyes will always be remembered. Rındı Gül Eron Oral '76*

Rındı Gül Eron Oral, her former pupil - August 20, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ *I always loved talking with Dorothy... She had a warmth and friendliness about her, that seemed to come so naturally- like she'd known you her whole life. And she did have so many interesting & entertaining stories! Her company was such a pleasure, and I will miss her greatly. My sincerest condolences to the whole family. Here's a nice photo of her, from my son's bar mitzvah party...*



Caryn Graves - August 18, 2020 at 09:35 PM

ZE

“ Dear Mrs.Kinaci,
You will always have a special place in my heart as the cherished teacher who taught me my first words in English. Your grace , compassion and special sense of humor made every lesson a fun. I remember how emphatically you were trying to teach us the difference in pronunciation between “v” and “w” by having us say the word “Riverview” million times as a chorus. I am happy that our roads crossed again the last few years and I enjoyed the occasional meals we shared.
May you Rest In Peace. ❤️



Zeren - August 18, 2020 at 06:35 PM

SU

“ Remember Dorothy as a happy and forever smiling person. It was always a pleasure to see her.
RIP Dorothy!

Suman - August 18, 2020 at 05:58 PM



“ I will cherish the memories Pam and I have of the "old lady's club" - you with Pam and me with Red (aka known as Eileen), So many times spent together - dinners out, old movies and plays at Winter Garden Theatre, that unforgettable Christmas lights boat ride in Mt. Dora and dinners at each others homes (mostly mine as Pam is not very fond of cooking). You always brought an interesting conversation to the "party" - especially after a few margaritas or glasses of wine. I will always remember the phrase "yeah, right" whenever you thought someone was trying to pull one over on you.

I know your family will find comfort in the memories and love you shared with each of them.



MaryAnn Eifert - August 18, 2020 at 04:29 PM

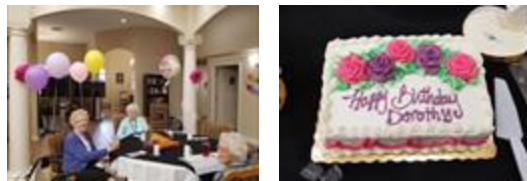


“ Dorothy lived such a colorful vibrant and exciting life raising great daughters and amazing grandkids. I'll always think of our Massachusetts adventures with a smile and know she is missed but her spirit continues to touch all her knew her.

sara - August 18, 2020 at 12:35 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



pambozkurt - August 18, 2020 at 12:34 PM



“ 12 files added to the album Memories Album



DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory - August 18, 2020 at 11:46 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory - August 18, 2020 at 10:32 AM

SR

“ *I loved taking Her places and very much enjoyed her company. She told me lots of stories. She was an amazing woman. She meant alot to me and I'm glad I got to know her. She will be greatly missed.*

Stephany Ramsey - August 17, 2020 at 08:59 PM

SK

“*Mama,
I keep thinking of all the times you would say you would pray for one of us... to have a safe trip, or for something that was stressing us to go smoothly, or pretty much anything really.. you would pray and magically things would ease up, or we would get from point A to point B safely. I can't begin to count the times I asked you to say a prayer for this or that.. No request was too small, you always obliged and then you'd follow up and ask how things went, if your prayers did the trick.
You were praying for us all the way to the end, when so many things had to line up just right the week of Andrew and Smitha's wedding. I'm sure your prayers helped smooth the way then too.
Your prayers were so effective we used to joke that you had a direct line to God.. Then again we shouldn't have been surprised, though you thought your name was very old fashioned, it did mean Gift of God after all..
I can't ask you to pray for us any more but I'm guessing that since you are closer to God now, perhaps you have an even more direct line than before. I feel safe in the knowledge that you will continue to keep watch over your brood and we will do our best to make you proud.
Till we meet again...*

Suzan Kinaci - August 17, 2020 at 06:57 PM

ER

Suzan, I'm so sorry for your loss. She will be missed. She sounds like she was and will always be a great "lady". Until you both meet again. Hold on to the good memories.

Elvio

Elvio Rebolo - August 18, 2020 at 04:59 PM

SK

Thank you Elvio.

skinaci - August 19, 2020 at 08:55 PM

PR

“ I met Dorothy several years ago at Benton House ALF where she went after Hip surgery to recover. From the moment we met, I knew we would be friends even though I was there to give her Physical Therapy. The stories she would tell me about her travels, teaching and her daughters were amazing. Then a few years later we met again at Golden Pond and I again worked with her. She was not always happy that she had to exercise, but she never refused. At Golden Pond she started a chat group and would regale residents and staff alike with her stories of Travels and family. She and I also talked politics and I loved the "choice" words she could have regarding the current President. She touched my life and so many others. I regret that I left Golden Pond in March and was never able to see her again due to the Pandemic. I will always remember my sweet and feisty friend Dorothy..Pat Reed

Pat Reed - August 17, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ 106 files added to the album Memories Album



DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory - August 17, 2020 at 04:43 PM

PB

“ *Mother, you were the one constant in my life. We traveled far and wide...and had a lot of adventures along the way. Some fun and some not so much. But we prevailed. After you moved here we had our moments... many of them silly and sweet and a few we chose to forget!*

I am going to miss our dinners out, toasting each other with a margarita or sangria, our brunches after church...arguing about whether you should be driving yourself to your hairdresser every week.

You made my sisters and I... strong, independent and opinionated women! We are forever grateful for that.And because of you we have good sons!

Now there is an emptiness in life, a void in my heart. This not "Good-bye" but a "See you in a bit"



Pam Bozkurt - August 17, 2020 at 04:15 PM

FC

“ My mother used to have cold hands. She used to say, "Cold hands, warm heart." This was certainly true of her. She was fiercely loyal to her friends and family and did not tolerate any unkindness directed at us, from anyone.

I remember when I moved to Berkeley for school, she came to visit my first year. A homeless man asked for some money and having become accustomed to this already, I said, "No, sorry" with as much compassion as one can as they continue to walk by. His response was to swear back at me. My mother rose to my defense, preparing to take on this man, who clearly was not mentally well. I had to drag her away.

When I was little and my mother and I still walked holding hands, on cold days she loved how warm my hands were. When we'd finally get on our public transportation, we had a little routine. I'd use my two little hands to warm her big cold one between them. She called me her little toaster. I'm sorry I won't get a chance to warm your hands one more time, Mother, but your love continues to warm my heart.

Rest in peace. We all miss you.



Filiz Crocker - August 17, 2020 at 12:46 PM