



Dorothea R. Howard

February 15, 2023

Dorothea R. Howard, of West Greenwich, Rhode Island, and Fort Myers Beach, Florida, peacefully passed away on February 15, 2023, after an extended illness.

She was the former wife of the late Kenneth D. Howard.

She was born in Coventry, RI on July 19, 1939, to the late Albert and Antoinetta Asselin. She was the sister of Emma M. Newman and the late Roland J. Asselin, both of West Greenwich, RI.

Dottie leaves behind two daughters, Dawne Rossi and her husband Steven, of West Greenwich, RI, and Darla Fratantuono and her husband Joseph of Cranston, RI. She was blessed with 9 grandchildren, Scott Howard; Joseph Sousa; Aliyah, Ciara and Brianna Fratantuono; Meghann, Steven, Madisson and Zachary Rossi. She also has 3 great grandchildren Christopher and Kenzley Houle; Zachary Londono.

She attended Coventry High School, in Coventry, RI. She was a 20-plus year employee of Metropolitan Life on Route 2 in West Warwick, RI, where she worked in the building manager's office. Prior to working at "Met", she was employed by the Exeter-West Greenwich School District as a teacher's aide.

Dottie was a long-time resident of West Greenwich and the Lake Mishnock community where she grew up. As a teenager, she spent many joyful summers working and playing at the Lake Mishnock Grove. It was at the Lake Mishnock roller skating rink where she met her husband Kenneth during the 1960s. Dottie was active in the Lake Mishnock Fire Department Minstrel shows, where she was an endman that performed comic routines with her mother and brother. This was a major fundraiser for the fire department. She was an avid sales rep for Avon, attaining the status of President's Club. She was the Director of the West Greenwich Summer Recreational program and volunteered with the Girl Scouts. She had a passion to travel, and loved organizing trips with MERA or her family. Dottie was often traveling to NYC, Broadway and Disney (over 25 times) with friends and family.

Dottie was also an original member of Saints John and Paul Parish in Coventry, RI, where she sang in the choir and participated in many volunteer roles throughout the years.

After retirement from Met Life, Dottie moved to Fort Myers Beach, Florida to join her sister Emma and became a member of the Saint Columbkille Parish. She volunteered weekly at their Thrift Shop. It was one of her most fun things to do. She also sang in the Indian Creek Chorus and enjoyed or volunteered in many of the park activities, including bingo, dancing, the bike club, and performing comic routines with her sister at various fundraisers.

Her biggest joy in life was visiting with friends and family and making them laugh, both in RI and FL. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Saints John and Paul in Coventry, RI on Saturday, February 25 at 11:00 a.m.

Tribute Wall

RM

“ My dear friend “Chumly”. I will always and forever remember so, so many great times with you and your family. I loved you as my “special” sister. Our trip to Ft Lauderdale, our nights at Quonset Point and our yearly cookouts are forever in my mind. Rest In Peace my friend till we meet again. To Emma, Dawne and Darla, my thoughts and prayers. So grateful for all the years with all of you
Love Aunty Rachelle

Rachelle McBride - February 24, 2023 at 10:16 PM

GT

“ Dottie was one of my beloved sisters in the Women's Guild at St. Columbkille in Fort Myers. A cheerful, generous presence. Her beautiful smile is lighting the halls of heaven, she is in that peaceful garden now.
My prayers are with dear friend Emma and the rest of the family.
May God bless you with warm memories and peace.

G. Tino - February 24, 2023 at 02:37 PM

JP

“ My Dear Cousin Dot, who was more like a sister to me than a cousin.
The wonderful memories spent with Dot are amongst my most cherished.
God must have needed another angel in heaven, and thought of you.
My prayers are with you Cuz, and your loving family, always.
TTFN,
Cousin Joey ❤️

Joey Pomoransky - February 21, 2023 at 09:24 PM

SK

“ Thank you for the childhood memories filled with so much fun "Aunty" Dottie! You embodied love and laughter, and I'll never forget those clam cake picnics, playing in the schoolhouse or huge barn fires by the lake with your family. May your rest in peace now. Until we meet again, Love Susan

Susan Kanakry - February 21, 2023 at 08:36 PM

JB

“ Dottie was a treasure, a treat, and a wonderful friend of many here at St Columbkille in Florida. She will be missed here at the parish that loved her so much. May she enjoy the peace of heaven that she so rightly deserves - Fr Pat

jp boyha - February 20, 2023 at 07:54 PM

DO

“ My Aunt was a big part of my life. I have so many good memories as a child and adult. I will treasure my memories of you Aunty. I miss you so much.
Love Dorie



Doreen - February 20, 2023 at 02:32 PM