



Dorothy Deane "Dot" Nelson

June 4, 1927 - January 4, 2021

Dorothy Deane "Dot" Nelson, 93, passed away Monday, January 4, 2021, at Homestead Assisted Living, Mason City, IA.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 5:00pm on Monday, January 11, 2021, at Hogan-Bremer-Moore, 126 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA, with Pastor Sue Simmons officiating. Burial will take place at 10:30am on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at the Rock Falls Cemetery.

Visitation will be held from 3:00pm to 5:00pm on Monday, January 11, 2021, at Hogan-Bremer-Moore, 126 3rd St NE, Mason City, IA

Family will host another Celebration of Dot's life in the summer.

Dorothy was born on June 4, 1927, the daughter of Quentin and Thelma Main Abarr. She attended school in and around Grafton Iowa and graduated from Plymouth High School in 1944. After graduation Dorothy "Dot" as many knew her, worked for Stoddard's Manufacturing Plant and Montgomery Ward in Mason City. She attended AIB in Des Moines, Iowa and subsequently worked at Air Material Command near Dayton, Ohio during WWII until early 1948, where she met and married her children's father.

Dot worked for NS-RF Schools for 20 years before her retirement in the early 90's, and completely loved her work and students over the years. She was an avid gardener, antique collector, reader, card player and loved her family, friends and church.

She married Robert Nelson June 30th, 1984 at the Plymouth Methodist Church. They loved one another as God would have us love one another. Only in death were they separated; and eternal life will bring them together again.

Dorothy is survived by her children, David Donisi, Mark Donisi, Kimm Donisi, Kip Donisi, and Tami Donisi (Bob Eisner); grandchildren, Nick (Magally) Donisi, Mindi (Randy) Martinson, Samantha Donisi, Giovanni Donisi, Koby Chapman, Justin (Ellie) Eisner, and

Marissa Eisner; great grandchildren, Nikolas Henkes, Camryn Donisi, Lucas Donisi, Gianni Donisi, Christian Ames, Kayden Ames, MacKenzie Ames, Sage Eisner, Jett Eisner, Sophia and Violet; siblings, David C. (Billee) Abarr, Lannie Navratil, Dr. Michael (Linda) Navratil; Nelson Children; Brad (Julie) Nelson, and Suzanne Nelson Svensen; Nelson Grandchildren, Taylor, Chase, Anthony, Alexis, and Marcus; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and great friends.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her only sister Joyce Abarr, Daughter Traci Donisi, Parents and Husband.

Memorials may be directed to the family at the address of 19 North Connecticut Avenue, Mason City, IA.

Events

JAN 11 Visitation 03:00PM - 05:00PM
Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel
126 Third Street Northeast, Mason City, IA, US, 50401

JAN 11 Celebration of Life 05:00PM
Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapel
126 Third Street Northeast, Mason City, IA, US, 50401

JAN 12 Graveside Service 10:30AM
Rock Falls Cemetery
Rock Falls, IA, US

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapels - January 13, 2021 at 02:02 PM



“ A webcast video has been added.



Hogan Bremer Moore Colonial Chapels - January 13, 2021 at 02:02 PM



“ For those of you who didn't receive a letter and may be wondering about the Life Celebration for Dot this Summer~ We just couldn't come up with a date that would work for a majority of family and friends what with work schedules, vacation & other travel, surgeries and health concerns...After many attempts, we decided that Honoring Dot on her Birthday, June 4th would be appropriate. Please take a moment to contemplate Dot Abarr (Donisi) Nelson~ and Thank You for honoring her memory, her life, and her contribution to helping to make the world a better place for a moment in time....

Tami Donisi - June 02, 2021 at 10:29 AM



“ Tami Donisi lit a candle in memory of Dorthy Deane "Dot" Nelson



Tami Donisi - June 02, 2021 at 10:23 AM



“ A heartfelt Thank You--to All of Mom's / Dot's friends and family who have helped make her passing a little more bearable with your comforting thoughts- prayers and reaching out...She will be missed from this life, but certainly she's in her next. I found this after the fact; tucked away in a lonely envelope after all the funeral arrangements and services were over, after everyone is trying to go on... an old newspaper clipping that reads:

Do Not Stand At My Grave and Weep

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the softly falling snow,
I am the gentle showers of rain,
I am the fields of ripening grain.

I am the morning hush,
I am the graceful rush
Of beautiful birds in circling flight.
I am the starshine of the night.

I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room,
I am in the birds that sing,
I am in each lovely thing,

Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there--I do not die. -Mary E. Frye 1932

(A few last thoughts from Dot.)



Tami Donisi - January 18, 2021 at 11:18 AM



“ This is a very fitting poem! Thank you, Tami. It was a beautiful service last week for a beautiful soul. I always enjoyed my visits with Dot, and treasure her memory. Her love for all of you continues; death cannot end the love. Pastor Beverly Butler

Beverly Butler - January 19, 2021 at 11:54 AM



“ Thank you Pastor Beverly for your years of guiding and accompanying Mom through her journey of life and moving forward through it at the stages you shared toward her everlasting life...She often shared with me when you had your wonderful conversations,

and always appreciated your reaching out to her in hospital, care facilities and assisted living facility. Your care and thoughtfulness was always a blessing to her!

Tami Donisi - January 21, 2021 at 01:07 PM



“ One of the nicest couples that I have ever met. Over the decades their personalities and soft spoken voices were their trademark to me

Mike Miller - January 11, 2021 at 11:39 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kip Donisi - January 11, 2021 at 02:00 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!

Love,
Misty and Fred

Fred Oleson - January 11, 2021 at 07:07 PM



“ Praying for you and your family, Kim. Sorry for the loss of your mother.

Janice (Ver Helst) Boostrom - January 11, 2021 at 09:46 AM



Dear Tami and family,

Your mother Dot was such a wonderful person and I wish we'd not lived so many miles apart so that I could have known her better.

One story our Uncle Bill liked to tell was about the day that your mother was born on the family farm east of Redding. Your grandparents were living with Quentin's parents Minnie and Harlan for their first few years of married life. That means that there were at least five of Quentin's younger brothers living there too. Bill was almost 15 years younger than Quentin, therefore nine years old in 1927. The next youngest brother was John who was 11 then.

John and Bill were told that they were going to have to spend the day at their aunt Clyda's house on a nearby farm because the bigger boys were going to take the top off the well and it just wasn't safe for those young boys to be near an open well.

They found out when they returned home that a baby had been born at home a little earlier. Such were the secrets and modest conditions around childbirth in those days! Dot and Joyce's uncles were glad to finally have girls in the family. In fact, Grandma Minnie told Thelma that the grandkids were welcome to come for a visit any time.

They spent several weeks in the summers on the farm, getting lots of attention from their grandparents and uncles.

You have my deepest sympathy for the loss of your mother.

Please let me know when the summer memorial will be held as I know some of us cousins will want to attend. 816-678-8342. Isabelle50860@yahoo.com

Love,

Isabelle Abarr

isabelle abarr - January 11, 2021 at 08:28 AM



Isabelle! We've been thinking of you....Thank You for reaching out and Thank You for the Great Story!! Always wonderful to have more details~I will definately keep you posted regarding Dot's nice weather Life Celebration!! Take Care and Stay Safe!

Tami Donisi - January 11, 2021 at 12:11 PM



isabelle A abarr is following this tribute.

isabelle abarr - January 10, 2021 at 07:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dorothy Deane "Dot" Nelson.



January 10, 2021 at 12:55 PM



“ Dot and Bob were wonderful, wonderful people!! An example couple for sure. Bob was a "new" teacher at Rck Falls Schools my junior and senior years, and I'm 82. That's how far back we go. Our condolences to all. Sending Love, Larry & Arlene Dodd

Larry V. Dodd - January 09, 2021 at 10:36 AM



“ Dear Tami, Bobby, and family, My sympathy to all of you at this very difficult time. I met your mom only a few times, luckily at pot-luck picnics! She was a pleasure to chat with, and I could see parts of her charm in the Donisi sibs I knew best, Tami, Kipp. Know that raising her six children remained precious memories for your mom, all of her life. And what a life! Thank you for sharing her story, and yours, with me. Love and peace to you, from your Wisconsin friend, Kathy M.



Melzer - January 08, 2021 at 09:16 PM



“ A friend asked me yesterday how you put the lifetime of someone who has lived 93 years in a half a page? You Don't. Mom (Dot) lived through little to no electricity, outdoor (plumbing) to eventually indoor plumbing, she actually did walk to school for miles and miles to a one room school; (we joked later on that it was uphill both ways- always against the wind)...She lived through the Great Depression- (luckily in a rural setting so there were always meals),She worked in a secretarial pool at Wright-Patterson Air Field in Dayton, OH, during WWII doing her part for the war effort. She was co-owner in a grocery store and helped butcher in it...She raised 6 children; was an avid gardener and food preservationist, Great cook and baker...and THEN she got her driver's license and went to work at NS-RF schools. One of her greatest joys was knowing how many kids she helped learn to read...

In retirement she worked at KCMR Christian radio station as a volunteer Disc Jockey with her husband Bob, for years. She attended many sports events. She traveled to a number of states, visited with her children and grandchildren to stay a part of our lives...She was always sending notes and cards to let someone know she was thinking of them, I will cherish forever my handwritten notes and silly comics she cut out of the paper and sent me...

There are far too many important stories and events to list; you can NOT put a lifetime into a few paragraphs, but these are a few highlights of Dot's Lifetime...

Tami Donisi - January 08, 2021 at 10:21 AM



“ Sending love and my heartfelt condolences to Tami and all who loved Dot. Her kindness, (and cooking) left a lasting impression on me. I never left her house without some kind words or with an empty tummy. Big hugs to you .

Myra Foxen - January 07, 2021 at 05:38 PM



“ Love you My...Good thing we had parents that helped raise the two of us!! Your condolences and words are heartfelt and help to ease the loss of our Mom...XOX

Tami Donisi - January 07, 2021 at 06:19 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dorthy Deane "Dot" Nelson.



January 07, 2021 at 05:36 PM



“ Sending my sincerest sympathy to Dot's family. We go back many years but good memories remain!

Rhonda Gorkowski True - January 07, 2021 at 12:56 PM



“ Mom always loved talking about you and your family, and how our families had the joy of intertwining! Thank you for your sympathies and enjoy the many memories! tkd

Tami Donisi - January 07, 2021 at 02:19 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dorthy Deane Nelson.



January 07, 2021 at 10:21 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Donisi and Nelson families. Bob and Dot were a special couple and very happy together. She was a very kind and helpful person to all the kids at NS-RF schools. Always enjoyed visiting with her.

Terry Sprung - January 07, 2021 at 08:37 AM



“ Thank You Terry and Family for your thoughts and prayers...they are certainly appreciated...

Tami Donisi - January 07, 2021 at 02:21 PM



“ Sending our sympathy and love to you all. Dot was indeed, a very special lady. She was a dear friend and she will be sorely missed. Blessings, June and Dennis Dodd

June Dodd - January 07, 2021 at 06:40 AM



“ Thank You June & Dennis, Mom always had wonderful stories about your family, We know she missed you...

Tami Donisi - January 07, 2021 at 02:23 PM



“ Kim so sorry for your loss. (Hugs)

Joy Enabnit - January 07, 2021 at 09:04 PM



“ To all my cousins: your mom was the sweetest lady, I loved to visit with her, she loved it as well!!
I'm so sorry for your loss, please know my thoughts and prayers are with you all!!
I'm sending you each a hug as well, even though we aren't suppose to be hugging right now!! Love you all!!
Sue Dorenkamp, Rock Falls

Sue Dorenkamp - January 06, 2021 at 08:56 PM



“ Thank You Sue!! The Hugs are the MOST important now! Virtual is just as Good as the real ones (for now)...We're all looking forward to getting together when it's Safe. Mom was always happy when she was talking with you; she LOVED your smile and your visits!

Tami Donisi - January 07, 2021 at 02:25 PM



“ Please accept our sincere condolences. Our hearts are with you.

Green Family - January 06, 2021 at 07:56 PM



“ Thank You for your thoughts and condolences...They are completely appreciated.

Tami Donisi - January 07, 2021 at 02:27 PM