



Mrs. Dorothy Ann Piet

April 5, 2017

Dorothy Ann Piet passed away in Oakville, Ontario on April 5, 2017.

She lived a full and vibrant 85 years, including a lifelong career in teaching (mostly with special needs pre-schoolers), a loving marriage of almost half a century, and a robust array of friends and neighbours who always enjoyed popping by for a cup of tea (or, sometimes, a glass of wine).

She was endlessly generous with her time, keeping constantly busy with charitable interests, volunteer pursuits, her church, and her community. She was selfless and tolerant, and possessed a quiet but solid strength.

She loved gardening.

And she really, really loved her mangoes.

Dorothy (nee Green) was married to husband Gary, who predeceased her in 2006. They met when he offered to fix her broken windshield wiper... and she in turn offered to sew the shirt he ripped while fixing the windshield wiper... and they continued to look after each other during 47 years of marriage. It was a strong and comfortable union defined by a happy home combined with frequent travel to Europe (when they were young) and to Mexico (when they were not quite as young).

Dorothy is survived by her three children – eldest son Anthony, youngest son Geoffrey and his wife Gina, and daughter Jacqueline with whom she shared an especially close relationship.

Dorothy was rightfully thrilled to be Oma to her five grandchildren (Jacob, Nicholas, Andre, Renee, and Vanessa) and two great-grandchildren (Camren and Sophia).

The entire family is truly appreciative of the agencies and people who enabled her to pass away quietly and peacefully, at a time and place of her choosing. Special thanks go to Doctors Gordon, Slinger, and Adamek. Extra special thanks go to the palliative care team at Acclaim Health who allowed Dorothy to spend her final months at home – in particular Dolly, Jeannie, Brad, and Norma.

At Dorothy's request, cremation will be followed by a private family ceremony. In memory, feel free to make a contribution to a charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall

AI

“ I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to you Anthony, Jacqueline and Geoffery and to your family. It has taken me some time to decide what I wanted to say here, as Dorothy was such an inspiring, unique woman and a very special friend. I will never forget her and will cherish the 30 years that I knew her, but especially the last 5 years that I worked closest with her at Community Living Mississauga. Dorothy was many things – a teacher, an advocate for children and their families, a pioneer in the field of special needs resourcing and inclusion, a model of charity and kindness to others, a problem solver and a diplomat. At times she could really shake things up in order to achieve a goal that was important to her. Dorothy had a few favourite sayings that demonstrate how she went about her daily work life. Two of the most memorable were, “Just get it done!” and “It’s easier to beg forgiveness than to ask permission!” But the one I will remember most, because it speaks to her role in guiding others to welcome children with disabilities, “Every child just wants the same things - to play, have friends and be loved.” From 1969 to 2008 she truly was a role model for resource teachers, early childhood educators, and developmental services professionals in our community and across the province – but especially for all of us who became her friends. I will remember the fun times and memories - trips to casinos, lunches at “Swiss Chick”, road trips to conferences and garden centres, her love of mangoes and steel band music, the occasional glass of wine on the patio. I will miss our visits and phone conversations; telling her stories about my daughters and grandkids, hearing about her children and grandchildren and the chipmunks in her garden. I will continue to nurture the little aloe plant that sits by my kitchen window, because she gave it to me 10 years ago with the words “I’m trusting you with this, so you better look after it!”

I will remember Dorothy always. Thank you for sharing your wonderful mother/grandmother with the rest of us who learned to respect and love her as well.

Sincerely, Ann Iannarelli

Ann Iannarelli - April 17, 2017 at 10:44 AM

AI

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Ann Iannarelli - April 17, 2017 at 09:42 AM

DH

“ A long time friend well loved and will be dearly missed. Doris

Doris Huggett - April 15, 2017 at 01:43 PM

DC

“ How do you put into words, a friendship of over 40 years ! A friend who was always eager to go wherever the road led us, as we did so many times, from flea markets to small towns all over Ontario and beyond. Friday nights at Denny's and tea at 3:00 are just a sweet memory now, along with Saturday rambles or visits with Peter and Anne Marie. Or watching the waves roll in and sail boats race on the lake near Oakville Harbour, always with a Tim Hortons at hand. There was always a cup of tea at Dorothy's waiting on McBride Avenue, even in the very early mornings when I was jogging by. Visits to obscure nurseries, sharing plants and gardening, always with a cup of tea or coffee. Listening to the steel band at Applewood, and her joy at hearing her own memories of the islands return – Dorothy never missed the opportunity when a steel band was playing and spoke often of her parents and their life on T & T. Yes, all these and more, much more. I am missing you, dear friend.

Donna Cane - April 12, 2017 at 02:26 PM

HR

“ I would like to extend my sympathy and condolences to the "Piet" Family at this time of loss.
Dorothy was a special friend, in particular as we came together often at Glen Abbey United Church. We could always rely upon Dorothy to be forthright, thoughtful and kind-hearted in all occasions whether participating one-on-one or in a group. We shall truly miss her presence in our midst. May the Peace of Christ be with her now and forever.

Harley Ranson

Harley Ranson - April 12, 2017 at 10:17 AM

SR

“ My sincere condolences to the "Piet" family. I have had the pleasure over the last five years to meet such a nice woman and really enjoyed her company. I will definitely miss the barbecuing she would always look forward to, her favourite card game "Newfie bingo" and watching her challenge the iPad. May she rest in peace.
Sam Raposo

Sam Raposo - April 11, 2017 at 07:44 PM

TN

“ My sincerest condolences to your family with the loss of Dorothy!

I was a staff of Dorothy's on the preschool team at CLM about 9 years ago and will always remember her tenacity, big heart and passion for the rights and needs of children! She will continue to be in my thoughts and will continue to inspire me to advocate for children and their families!

Theresa Nagy

Theresa Nagy - April 11, 2017 at 02:21 PM

JS

“ MY CONDolences to the Piet family. I enjoyed Dorothy's input in our Bible studies and her love of the King James Version of the Bible. I miss her. June

June Strachan - April 10, 2017 at 03:29 PM

LM

“ Dorothy was a mover and shaker in the early days of children with special needs getting included in preschool and early elementary school. She could talk anyone into anything that helped kids get included and integrated in our lives in this community. She was incredibly generous with her spirit, her time, and frankly, her money, in order to make it possible for little kids to be part of the regular action for little kids in our community. Dorothy pushed to get community thoughts and action to change for the better, and when the better was achieved, she pushed for the best. Cool before women of her sort were regarded cool, she pushed for change and got it, so that little kids with special needs would be included. I never heard her raise her voice, she was very pushy and persuasive in an incredibly pleasant way. It was never for her, but always for little kids and their families. Incredible woman who influenced our inclusion of children with special needs. We all admired her stamina, we laughed about how she used the cotton in her ear, we all shook our heads in wonder at how we had been persuaded to do whatever she felt we should do. She'll be remembered for all of her good work and the pleasant humour and interaction that she used to make inclusion happen.

from Lorna, Ravi, Cathie and Lynda at Infant & Child Development Services Peel

Lorna Montgomery - April 10, 2017 at 02:25 PM

LC

“ Dorothy was a wonderful lady and a force to be reckoned with. I always enjoyed our afternoon tea time at work and sharing a conversation with her. She will be missed. My condolences to her family.

Lois Campbell

Lois Campbell - April 10, 2017 at 11:56 AM

LM

“ Dearest Dorothy,
Thank you for welcoming me into your home last summer as I spent the first part of my trip to Canada visiting my brother and meeting you. Your embrace was sincere and your kindness will never be forgotten. Thank you for loving my your grandsons unconditionally, I thank you for helping shape the men that they have become. Prayers for you and your family as there is an end to your long goodbye.

Lyric Mallow

Oklahoma City, OK

Lyric Mallow - April 10, 2017 at 07:58 AM

LY

“ *My Dear Friend Dorothy, I met you in the spring of 1972 when our two son's started playing together and they did so most of their life. I remember the beautiful flower gardens you had on McBride Ave, so pretty. The wonderful tea you would make it was perfect. The tea cozy going over the tea pot to make it taste so perfect. The time when I was falling apart you were there for my little boys taking them to Jack Darling Park with your own. You helped make me strong again and your wise words and strength finally mended my soul. Thank You for being my friend and you will always be in my heart.*

Love,

Louise Young

Louise Young - April 09, 2017 at 05:04 PM

PA

“ *Dorothy, we'll miss you so much. How many times did I do that walk from my front door to yours and it was always a pleasure. I loved our chats about plants, books, education and the state of the world today. We never, ever ran out of things to talk about did we? Thanks for keeping me company as I drove to Florida and for all the hilarious emails you would share.*

What a privilege it was to live next door to you for 15 years. Ours was a special friendship and we will miss you terribly.

Rest in peace Oma D,

xoxo

Patti - April 09, 2017 at 06:42 AM

CM

“ *I woud like to offer all of you my deepest and sincere condolences and may the soul of your Mother /grandmother rest in peace.*

Carola van de Munt - April 09, 2017 at 02:39 AM

LI

“❤️❤️ Rest in peace my dear aunt❤️❤️

Lilita - April 09, 2017 at 02:18 AM



“ Dearest Dorothy,

We are so grateful and thankful that you came into our lives and hearts and that we got to know you better.

We will remember you as beautiful, caring, awesome, open for interesting things, love for nature, children and animals. Not to forget your good sense of humour.

We will never forget your spontaneous phone call to Miguel when he arrived in Canada. Welcome to Canada!

You were always interested when we talked on Skype and asked about Miguel and Grazietta.

*Thank you so much Dorothy. Thank you, your love will carry on!
Rest in peace now together with uncle Gary.*

We will always remember you!

Xxx

Editha and family

Editha Hof VdMunt - April 08, 2017 at 11:26 PM

FS

“ *I have many memories of my Tante Dorothy. I remember getting games at Christmas and playing them with her regardless of the rules. I remember big dinners with jello salad. I remember the tea cosy and the mouse collection. I remember a smart, interesting, strong and loving person. She will be missed. Frances Smeets*

Frances Smeets - April 08, 2017 at 05:41 PM

JS

“ *Such a selfless (and at times stubborn lol), giving, and caring Oma. What a honour to have lived with you and to be loved by you each and every day of my life regardless of my decisions. You are one of the wisest woman I've ever met and I love your sense of humour. Quite the gardener as well, I recall eating bowls of your cherry tomatoes as I was a child! Truly grown with love and passion. You taught me how to see the good and light in every situation no matter how bad and dark I thought they were. Most importantly, you taught me how to embrace God and allow "Thy will be done and not my own". I'll love you forever Oma and will remain your special little friend always! I promise to honour you as I take care of my mother as she took care of you, and to always cook with love and passion! (even if my Eggs have "too much garlic"). You consistently embodied courage to me and were the first person to show me we can control our fears (as you would say, "SNAP out of it Piët!!"). Thank you for always being interested in what's going on in my life and progression, you pushed me more than anyone to elevate myself daily and that with God's help anything is possible! I love you so much and miss you lots, thank you for continuing to watch over me, for that I am truly blessed! - Your special little friend, Jacob "Snook" Schmidtmeyer*

jacob schmidtmeyer - April 07, 2017 at 05:04 PM

JA

“ *Love you and miss you Mom.
Give Dad a big hug from me.
❤️❤️❤️
Jacqueline*

Jacqueline - April 07, 2017 at 04:28 PM