



Doris E. Gotwals

July 1, 1926 - June 25, 2017

Doris E. Gotwals, 91, beloved widow of John G. Gotwals, passed away peacefully June 25, 2017 at Manatawny Manor, Pottstown. The daughter of Helen (Keeler) and J. Russell Stierly, she is survived by: daughter Gail Carter, granddaughter Linda Landes, and great-grandchildren Austin and Elizabeth Landes. Also survived by many cousins of the Keeler and Stierly families and by friend and caregiver Joyce Cluley. Predeceased by: her husband (2000), sister Gladys J. Stierly, baby brother Kenneth Stierly, and granddaughter Jessica Taroski.

Born July 1, 1926, Doris was raised in Oaks, graduated from Phoenixville H.S. in 1944 as a star athlete, and graduated with a B.S. from Ursinus College in 1948, again recognized for her outstanding athletic ability and proud of being one of "Miss Snell's Belles". Her major was health and physical education, and for the next 5 years she was honored to be the first female to teach and coach at Biglerville H.S., near Gettysburg.

On April 21, 1954, at St. Paul's, Oaks, she married John G. Gotwals, son of Dr. J. Elmer Gotwals and Helen, and they built their home overlooking French Creek. Thrilled with the arrival of baby Gail in 1957, motherhood became her primary focus, but she also worked at Macke Company in King of Prussia for 39 years. She and John hosted their large extended family for "picnics at the nob" where the harvest from their huge garden was enjoyed by all. Her

homemade crème puffs were often requested!

As an active life-long member of St. Paul's, Oaks, Doris held many positions, volunteering her time and talents wherever needed doing God's work. She attained perfect Sunday school attendance for 18 years and sang in the choir for 60 years. Her service to church, family, and friends was remarkable and there are no words to express how deeply she will be missed.

A mass of Christian burial, led by Rev. Dan Olsen, will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 126 Black Rock Road, Oaks, Pa 19456. There will be no viewing. Relatives and friends will be received at the church from 10-11 AM Saturday morning. Interment following the service will be at Providence Mennonite Church Cemetery, 109 S. Mennonite Road (off Rt. 29), Collegeville, PA 19426. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate gifts in her memory to St. Paul's Memorial Episcopal Church, 126 Black Rock Road, P.O. Box 404, Oaks, PA 19456. Condolences may be offered online by visiting www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com. Arrangements and cremation are being handled by the Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Main Street at Fifth Avenue, Phoenixville. Joyce Cluley thanks all caregivers who assisted Doris at Spring Mill, Manatawny Manor, and recently by Seasons Hospice of Phoenixville.

Cemetery Details

Providence Mennonite Church Cemetery

109 S. Mennonite Road
Collegeville, PA 19426

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery
126 Black Rock Road
Oaks, PA 19456

Memorial Service

JUL 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery
126 Black Rock Road
Oaks, PA 19456

Tribute Wall

MG

“ Beautiful person. She will be missed. Rest in peace with John.

Mark Gotwals - June 28, 2017 at 09:11 AM



“ Oh how I remember those Gotwals Fourth of July picnics and catching up with all the family goings on, watching all of us growing up and older. Enjoying all the homemade dishes and desserts. My Aunt Doris was one of a kind and the last one of that Gotwals generation to leave us. Condolences and love to Gail and Linda and Joyce .

Cousin Jeanne

Jeanne Schmolze - June 27, 2017 at 09:07 PM

BB

“ Doris was a St. Paul's fixture my entire life. She will be missed. Hugs to Gail, and condolences to Doris' family and friends.

Barbara Burkholder - June 27, 2017 at 01:54 PM

LL

Thank you


Linda Landes - August 19, 2024 at 12:43 AM



“ Linda Landes lit a candle in memory of Doris E. Gotwals



Linda Landes - June 27, 2017 at 10:43 AM

 Susan
Mano

“ Susan Mano sent a virtual gift in memory of
Doris E. Gotwals




Susan Mano - June 27, 2017 at 09:54 AM

 Susan
Mano

“ Susan Mano lit a candle in memory of Doris
E. Gotwals



Susan Mano - June 27, 2017 at 09:53 AM

 Susan
Mano

“ Doris was president of the Women of St. Paul's for a very long time and several of us would not let her retire from this post. She wanted my mom to take her place or me but they were just too big o' shoes for us to fill. Whenever we would ask about something we would always look to either Doris or her sister Gladys who also recently passed away for the answer. Both Doris and Gladys will be missed terribly. Church is just not the same without them both.

Susan Mano - June 27, 2017 at 09:52 AM



Linda Landes - June 27, 2017 at 10:43 AM

DF

I've known Doris my whole life. She was friends with my mother since they were young girls. Doris always had a kind word and wonderful smile to share with everyone. She will be missed...

Debbie Farris - June 30, 2017 at 08:19 PM

SG

We've known Doris since 1965 when we started attending St Paul' Church. She was always kind, helpful and smiling. Doris was a good servant for the Lord and will be missed.

Fran and Sue Gross

Suzanne Gross - July 01, 2017 at 02:30 PM