



Dorothy Ann Behrens Kidd

April 9, 1925 - August 31, 2020

Dorothy Ann Behrens Kidd passed away peacefully on August 31, 2020. She was a fourth generation Arkansan, born in Malvern on April 9, 1925, the third of three daughters of Mae Ellen Sligh Behrens and Harold George Behrens. She was a child of the Great Depression but was not subjected to its brutality due to the stable work that her father had with the U. S. Post Office and her parent's thrift and industriousness. Her deep appreciation of Franklin Roosevelt's leadership as President led Dorothy to become a loyal lifelong Democrat. She grew up in a home on Pine Bluff Street within several blocks of First Methodist Church where she and her family worshipped and within walking distance of the Malvern Daily Record where she worked after school while in high school. At Malvern High School, she took the harder courses such as Latin, served as drum major, and was in the senior honor society. Her mastery of English grammar was evident even in her nineties. After graduating high school, she attended Henderson State Teachers College, worked for Acme Brick Company, and worked in Dallas. In January 1946 she married James Harding Kidd. Dorothy supported James as he attended University of Houston on the GI Bill to earn an MBA. When the Korean War broke out James rejoined the army and they were stationed at Fort Lee, Virginia. Later they lived in Arkadelphia for several years during which time their two sons were born. They lived several places, including Pine Bluff and San Antonio, before moving to Little Rock in 1962 where Dorothy remained until 2002. She loved the trees and hills of Arkansas dearly.

In Little Rock Dorothy soon took on the tough job of pursuing a college degree while taking care of her family. She attended classes at nearby Little Rock University, earning a BBE in 1968 followed by an MSE from State College of Arkansas in 1971. She ensured that her sons took advantage of Little Rock's offerings such as the zoo, library, Territorial Restoration, and the Natural History Museum.

Once her career as a business education teacher at Pulaski Vocational-Technical school was launched, Dorothy renewed pursuit of her interests in lifelong learning, fishing, sewing, vegetable gardening, and growing plants and flowers of many kinds. She was able to propagate plants easily, which allowed her to spend very little on this activity. She

enjoyed spending time with her mother, sisters, and other relatives over the years. In 1973 she was blessed with her first of five grandchildren. She was very active with her grandchildren and enjoyed doing what they liked to do.

After retirement in 1991 she enjoyed all the activities she loved even more. In 2002 she finally realized a big dream when she moved to Conway to live on Lake Beaverfork on a quiet cul-de-sac. She soon had a vegetable garden planted along with lush flower beds around her home. When she couldn't be in the boat pursuing the big fish around the cove, she would have several fishing lines in the water down at the dock. She felt especially blessed to have enjoyed so many years in retirement and finally being able to fish anytime she wished.

In March 2011 she suffered a stroke that took away her independence. However, nothing could diminish her will to do for herself. She was the only patient at North Hills Life Care that had to be in a floor bed so that she would not fall out of bed. While at North Hills she often attended the Sunday service led by Brother Pierce who faithfully proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ and who assured the residents that God was still using them to carry out his will on earth. Dorothy enthusiastically joined in singing the old traditional hymns. We are grateful to the staff at North Hills for the loving attention to her needs in her last years.

Left to cherish her memory are her sons: James (Suzanne) of Benton and Mark (Jennifer) of Fayetteville; five grandchildren: Brian Kidd, Travis Kidd, Christopher Kidd, Robin Kidd, and Allison Covington; nine great grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild. We treasure the love she gave and the examples of service, industriousness, thrift, perseverance, and pursuit of interests.

Cemetery

Harp Cemetery

AR-9

Malvern, AR, 72104

Comments



“ Mark, that is one of the better obituaries that I have ever read! So many interesting facts about your mom. I loved Grandma Dot and appreciated how much interest she took even in my children. She truly was a great woman! I know you will miss her dearly.



Maria Musticchi Lambert - September 04 at 09:17 AM