



Dorothy Dolores Wykowski

December 29, 1929 - January 12, 2024

Dorothy Wykowski (nee Rzepka) died Friday, January 12th 2024, at 94 years of age. She was born in Detroit on December 29, 1929 to Angeline and Michael Rzepka.

A no-nonsense woman of boundless energy, bubbling positivity, and great faith, Dorothy was always ready for a game, a meal, an outing, or a party. She could conjure something to eat from an empty refrigerator; coax annuals in flower pots to return to bloom as perennials; diagnose any common ailment, and prescribe a soup or restorative (whisky or vodka shot) to make you feel better. Joy was found in simple pleasures – among these: seashells, roses, gardens, ladybugs, card games, lottery scratch-offs and bingo – shared with family, friends, and neighbors.

Able to find a use for almost anything, Dorothy was resourceful, hard-working and devoted to those in her life. She was a generous and nurturing example of grace and living well. Animals loved her, and she never understood why. Her laughter rings in our ears and hearts.

When some in the family were curious about her kitchen magic – specifically, how to make pierogi – Dorothy took them on a journey that has spiraled into an annual tradition. Several ‘pierogi parties’ would take place across southeastern Michigan every December with Dorothy as the inexhaustible

shop manager, supervising all stages of production. Asked one year how many pierogi she thought she had made, she answered, “I don’t know. Tens of thousands?” This was not the only treasured piece of her Polish heritage she shared – rousing choruses of ‘Sto lat” are sung at every birthday.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter Connie (Grant) Schwartz, daughter-in-law Michelle Wykowski, and son-in-law Dennis Doppke; grandchildren Gregory (Elizabeth) Doppke, Brian Doppke, Stephanie Doppke (Eric Brumm), Jeffrey (Jessica) Doppke, Jacquelynn Doppke (John Smith), Lauren Schwartz, Troy (Kayla) Wykowski, Eric Schwartz, Meredith Wykowski, Chrissy Doppke-Monte (Joe Monte), Matthew Doppke; and great-grandchildren Andrew, Abigail, Amelia, Adeline, Luke, Nicholas, and Maxwell. She was predeceased by her husband Arthur, children Angeline and Wesley, grandchildren Jimmy and Douglas Doppke, brothers Edward, Chester and Louis, and sisters Stella, Helen, Genevieve, Teresa and Cecilia.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Solanus Casey Center.

Visitation will take place from 2-8pm on Thursday, January 18th at Wasik Funeral Home – New Baltimore (35259 23 Mile Road, New Baltimore, MI 48047), with a funeral Mass said on Friday, January 19th at St. Louis Catholic Church (24415 Crocker Blvd, Clinton Twp, MI 48036). She will lie in state from 11-11:30, with mass beginning at 11:30. A luncheon will follow.

When faced with loss, periods of trouble, or uncertainty, Dorothy always assured us that “it will be ok.”

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - New Baltimore
35259-23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047
(586) 725-0177
<https://www.gendernalikfh.com/>

Rosary

JAN 18 (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - New Baltimore
35259-23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047
(586) 725-0177
<https://www.gendernalikfh.com/>

Visitation

JAN 19. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Louis Catholic Community
24415 Crocker Boulevard
Clinton Township, MI 48036

Funeral Mass

JAN 19. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Louis Catholic Community
24415 Crocker Boulevard
Clinton Township, MI 48036

Tribute Wall



“ Wasik Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dorothy Dolores Wykowski



Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. - January 18, 2024 at 02:36 PM

MR

“ I grew up with the Wykowski family, living one street away. Mrs. Wykowski was my second mother. Connie and I baked cookies in her kitchen and she never complained. We fished, swam, skied and would end up on the glider in the Wykowski's garage. My first dog, Jip was a puppy from Donna (?), their dog. Mrs Wykowski taught me to sew, and oh so many hours were spent doing crafts at their home. Her dear heart was always kind. We vacationed together, as she was my Mom's best friend. I had so much fun with her on the beaches of Bandon Oregon. She was in awe of the beautiful starfish on all the rock formations . Mom loved Dorothy as they shared many days, meals, card games, conversation and always laughter. Dorothy was the strongest woman I have met...in her faith, her family commitment and above all the love she shared with so many. I can see you and Mom smiling at us!. I love you and will miss you
💔 Bunny Ratusznik

Maria Ratusznik - January 18, 2024 at 11:05 AM

MM

“ Dorothy was always a sweet and upbeat even though she was fighting her own health issues for such a longtime. She will be certainly missed by her loved ones. Sending my deepest sympathy for your family.

Mary Frances Monte

Mary Frances Monte - January 16, 2024 at 05:20 PM

BC

“ On behalf of the Capuchin brothers I offer my deepest sympathies on the passing of Dorothy. It is truly humbling to receive memorial donations in honor of her life. Please be assured of the brother's prayers for the entire Wykowski family during this great time of grief. May perpetual light shine upon Dorothy.

Br Nick Blattner OFM Capuchin - January 16, 2024 at 10:46 AM