



Doris Stewart

April 28, 1929 - November 12, 2024

Doris Stewart, age 95, was born, in Spring Lake, New Jersey, on April 28, 1929, to Anthony and Blanche Kern. At age 18, she married Charles M. Stewart. Charles was a WWII veteran and Sunday School superintendent at her church. They moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where they began raising three girls, Michele, Carol and Laurie. As harsh winters became an issue for their eldest child's health, they relocated to Vero Beach and later West Palm Beach, Florida. While in Florida, the Stewart's welcomed a baby girl, Karen. In their retirement years, Doris and Charles moved to Mississippi. Throughout her life, Doris used her artistic abilities to make toys and clothes for her family and to create artwork for the Lord's glory. Her children were blessed to receive handmade Christmas gifts-including suitcases filled with custom doll clothes, doll houses, and gorgeous hand sewn clothing. She would even take her husband's old dress shirts and transform them in to smocked dresses for the children when they were very young. Her love for hand work began when she was just a child. She and her father made church pews and helped renovate their church sanctuary in Miami, Florida. Later in life, cardboard was one of her favorite mediums, and with this free resource, she volunteered her services to create life like Easter and Christmas scenes and fall festival games at churches in Florida, Canada and Mississippi. For one program, she carved a life-sized crucifixion scene out of foam that looked amazingly real. She also sewed, glued and painted beautiful Easter banners for several churches and costumes for various church productions. Every

summer, through age 85, Doris faithfully served in Vacation Bible School, teaching, designing original crafts, and creating amazing decorations-for the entire church. Likewise, she transformed refrigerator boxes into summer reading program highlights (a rocket, school bus, jukebox, Southern mansion, jungle animals and more) at the George E. Allen Library in Booneville. In addition, throughout much of her life as a believer, she served as a Sunday School teacher-of children and adult ladies, sang in the church choir, and helped at the Booneville Drop Off Center for Operation Christmas Child. She was the embodiment of Colossians 3:23, "And whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men."

When not volunteering at church, Doris stayed busy as a homemaker, mother, seamstress, cook and baker of delicious foods-all made from scratch.

Doris is survived by her four daughters, Michele Gifford DeNuzzo of Gainesville, FL, Carol Saunders of Alberta, Canada, Karen Toth (David) of Lexington, KY, and Laurie McBride (Mitch) of Fulton, MS; niece, Becky Walker of Largo, FL; a nephew, Phil Krause of Cary of North Carolina; grandchildren, Carrie Saunders, Tammy Saunders, Kelley Saunders, Sharon Toth-Shoemaker and David Toth, Jr; as well as numerous great-grandchildren, great nieces and a special best friend, Carole Sheets of Cleveland, GA.

She is preceded in death by her husband; her parents; sister, Blanche Krause; brother-in-law, Reverend Harley Krause; and three sons-in-law, Michael Saunders, John P. Gifford, and Frank DeNuzzo.

Per her request, there will be a graveside service, November 14, 2024, at 10:30 AM, with scripture and songs at Oaklawn Memorial Park in Booneville, MS. Harold (Bubba) and Roxanne (Rockie) Lollar will be officiating. Booneville Funeral Home will be in charge of all arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Memorial Park

Booneville, MS

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 14. 10:30 AM (CT)

Oaklawn Memorial Park
Booneville, MS

Tribute Wall

KS

“ I have very fond memories and many adventures of my Nana since I can first remember. My Mother, Carol Saunders, was Doris' second child, and I was the youngest of three grand daughters that live in Canada. Each year when we were little our family would drive to West Palm Beach from Montreal to spend Christmas or to Gainesville to spend the holidays with Auntie Michele and Uncle John. To this day my Nana's biscuits recipe are my favourite for Thanksgiving and Christmas and a demand for my mother to bake whenever she visits or I visit her. My Nana handmade me six rabbits, painted their faces, and made them beautiful clothing. I still have those rabbits and one of them, which I named Benjamin, had suspenders and a little pocket watch. I remember being terrified of the ocean at first so Nana and Poppop took us to the water slides instead. They dazzled us and bestowed most children's dreams and took us to Disneyworld a few times. I remember being so proud coming back to Canada to show off my Daisy Duck hat. To this day Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse can be found all over my house. Nana and Poppop also came to visit us in Montreal and her artistic skills were put to work at our church where a whole life size cutouts of animals, jungle backdrops, and countless angle and sheep costumes were made for our church Christmas play. The church still uses them today after 35 years. She also flew down to Edmonton while my mother fought her second bout of cancer and did we ever have a great time reconnecting. I cherish so many fond memories and thank God for blessing me with her and for bestowing upon me such a wonderful and loving mother. Until we all meet again in paradise.

Kelley Saunders - November 20, 2024 at 10:48 PM

KT

“ I would not be alive today if it had not been for my foster mother DORIS STEWART. She was a mighty Christian woman, mother and wife. I thank Jesus for bringing me to such a strong loving family. Laurie you were an anchor in her life , she was truly blessed t o have had you by her side. I couldn't have asked for a more remarkable Godly mother. You will be missed.

Karen Toth - November 13, 2024 at 05:25 PM