



## Betty L. Ditlow

November 29, 2023

Betty L. Ditlow (Foulke) peacefully departed from this world on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at the age of 98, surrounded by her family at her residence in Willow Valley Lakeside.

Born in Bradshaw, MD, to the late Howard A. Foulke and Josephine Vinson. Betty dedicated many years as a registered nurse at Church Home & Hospital in Baltimore, leaving an indelible mark on those she cared for. While raising her family, she attended Millersville University and earned her B.S. in Nursing in 1971.

A pillar of faith, Betty was a devoted member of the Millersville Methodist Church. Her spirituality illuminated her path and brought comfort to those around her. Beyond her profession and faith, Betty was a skilled quilter, sharing her talent as a former member of The Red Rose Quilters and Delmarva Quilters. Her quilts were a labor of love for her children and grandchildren.

Her artistry of quilting was surpassed only by her love of the outdoors. Betty learned to ski in Canada at age 50 and kayaked at her Delaware home until she was 88. She lived at Willow Valley for 33 years was often seen on her motorized scooter around the Willow Valley Community. She loved being outdoors, watching birds, and being in touch with nature.

Betty was an avid bridge player and teacher. She enjoyed playing with her peers in games of Bridge and Parchesi. Before each game, she lets you know that she plays to win.

Betty is reunited with her late husband, George H. Ditlow, her late son, Bruce Ditlow, and her late great-grandson Joshua Ditlow-Yuan. She is survived by her devoted children: Joan McMahon (John), Gary Ditlow (Micki), Kathy Ditlow (Claude Lavallee), Tony Ditlow (Jacque) and Julie Ditlow. Betty is also remembered as the dear sister of the late Iris Agee and Shirley M. Bear.

Her legacy extends to the next generations as a loving grandmother to Kristin, Annie, Bruce, Carrie, Kelsey, Blake, and Karly, and an adoring great-grandmother to eight. In celebrating Betty's life, we honor a woman of strength, compassion, and creativity. Her memory will forever be engraved in our hearts, a testament to a life well lived.

Betty planned her own memorial service down to the letter, which will be scheduled for a later date in 2024. Her family would love for you to attend her memorial or at the very least share a fond memory or story on this site for them to treasure.

The Groff Family Funeral Home and Cremation Center of Lancaster is honored by her family for choosing them to carry out Betty's last wishes with confidence.

# Tribute Wall

RG

“ Betty’s SMILE and warm greetings always brightened my day. I just found out about her passing today. If I would have know I would have attended the Memorial Service to give HUGS to her family. Blessed to have known Betty and her family.  
HUGS  
Robin S Gainer

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**Robin S Gainer** - September 21, 2024 at 09:20 AM

BS

“ Betty was an amazing person and mentor to our beginning bridge group. Her patient and kind instruction has given me the gift of this wonderful, frustrating game that I can continue to play my whole life. Betty had many interests, but her love of birds was a connection with my husband, Larry. She would sit on our porch in Lewes and then later in E-town on our patio and "bird talk" with him.  
She will be remembered lovingly.

*Brenda Sharp*

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**Brenda Sharp** - December 08, 2023 at 09:25 AM

JG

“ I cleaned her apartment and put clean sheets on her bed when she was in her apartment at Willow Valley. She was always so very friendly to me.

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**Jill Geiger** - December 06, 2023 at 01:44 PM

JR

“Betty has a wonderful heart, spirit and soul. When you visited her home, you were a “part of the family.” She welcomed families to her home and to her hidden retreat on the Del tidewater. She shared her life experiences, humor and wisdom. Betty shared gourmet meals and laughter to those around her. She was a teacher and mentor to many, and a very positive influence on many untold lives. A standout member of “The Greatest Generation.” Clearly, Betty’s was a life well lived, and she nailed it in “finishing well.” Blessings and prayers to the Ditlow family and friends.

*“In life and death, oh Lord, abide with me.”*

*“Pride is one of the seven deadly sins; but it cannot be the pride of a mother in her children, for that is a compound of two cardinal virtues —faith and hope.” - Charles Dickens*

*James & Angela Rorabaugh*

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**James Rorabaugh** - December 03, 2023 at 12:57 PM

KJ

*Thank you Betty for your wisdom and patience, trying to teach us bridge! Your words are with us to this day. And we remember how much you encouraged us to bid 3NT because you loved to play it! You are missed.*

*Kathy McDonough*

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**Kathleen Johnson-McDonough** - December 05, 2023 at 07:58 PM

JS

“ G. Betty will always be in our hearts. She will truly be missed as she had that beautiful smile and twinkle in her eye. She knew just what to say to make someone chuckle. She was adored by everyone who had the honor of meeting her. Many blessings and prayers to her sweet family and friends ❤️. ~ Jen & Scott Steiger

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**Jen & Scott Steiger** - December 03, 2023 at 09:07 AM

JR

“ From the moment we met Betty and George thru our dear friends Ray and Connie Bear we have always felt like family. They welcomed us so many times at Herring House and also skiing at Sutton. Aunt Betty was truly an amazing lady and we feel so blessed to have had her in our lives. Ron and Jeanette Rice

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**Jeanette Rice** - December 03, 2023 at 08:35 AM

AS

“ I'm so sorry to all the family. I'm so glad I've had the opportunity to know Betty and to call her my friend. I loved to hear lots of story's of trips with family, her nursing career and lots more. She always shared adventures that the family was doing she was so proud of all of you and loved you dearly.

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**Amanda Smith** - December 02, 2023 at 05:55 PM

FD

“ Betty could amaze. She endured WWII, raised a great family and then kayaked in retirement. Florence Ditlow

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**Florence Ditlow** - December 02, 2023 at 12:14 PM

LS

“ Aunt Betty was a kind, caring aunt. I always enjoyed the children "swaps" (that I'm sure she invented). The world was a better place with her in it.  
Cindy & Mike

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**Lucinda Sobkowski** - December 02, 2023 at 11:58 AM

CH

“ My sincere condolences to Joan and family. I have fond memories of Betty as a welcoming smile at her beach house when the gourmet club gang would descend for a long weekend, often with our own small kids in tow. She would always impress us all with her sailing and kayaking skills, her quilt displays, her full crab pots, and her general congeniality and delight in being alive. What a lovely lady!

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**Carol Hooper** - December 01, 2023 at 10:09 PM

JM

“ On the scene, Mom to Joan and Kathy  
Friday after Thanksgiving... "I'm NOT dying! I refuse."

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**Joan D. McMahon** - December 01, 2023 at 07:47 PM

EC

Betty or Mrs. Ditlow was a woman we admired and loved . Fond memories of when we were first married, trips to Puzzle Lake and Mt. Sutton . She was a wonderful mother and cook. Her quilting was above and beyond excellent She will be missed but now Is with her husband George and son Bruce ❤️ and prayers from Charlie and Elly Cary

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**Elly Cary** - December 01, 2023 at 09:07 PM

BG

*Betty was a very sweet lady who volunteered for me sharing her talent of quilting with the Residents and friendly visits, it was an honor to know her. Once moving to Lakeside she also enjoyed the country rides and spending time outdoors, she will be missed. The family is in my prayers. Bonnie*

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**Bonnie Gill** - December 03, 2023 at 09:41 AM

SA

*I remember going over to the Ditlow's house one Saturday night around 1961 because they wanted to show slides and tell us about Puzzle Lake. My parents joined up and we had many vacation weeks together. Another memory: Betty was the first person in her generation to ask me to call her by her first name.*

*Susan Jane Arntz*

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**Susan Jane Arntz** - December 20, 2023 at 10:33 PM

DD

*Mrs. Ditlow was a wonderful person. I lived beside her when I was a kid.*

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**Dave Dunmire** - November 01, 2024 at 03:30 PM