



Dorothy Helen Johnston

February 22, 2013

Dorothy Helen Johnson Johnston, 79, of Lancaster, PA, passed away on February 21, 2013 at the Essa Flory Center of Hospice of Lancaster County, after a long illness at Homestead Village Retirement Community, Lancaster, PA. She was married for 54 years to her late husband, William H. Johnston, who passed away in 2008.

Born January 3, 1934 in Boston, Massachusetts, she was the daughter of the late Fenimore Stratton Johnson, M.D. and Helen Estelle Barnett Johnson. She loved to share family stories of her family's unique experiences as they traveled across the country to various Navy ports where her father was stationed over his career as a Medical Corps physician in the U.S. Navy.

Dotty graduated from Haverford Township High School, Delaware County in June 1951. She went on to study at Allegheny College where she graduated with a B.A. in Sociology in 1955 and met her husband. Her first post-college job was in the Allegheny College library where the seed was planted for the future career she loved.

She and her husband started a family. She was devoted to her three children and once they were in school, Dotty took an active role there. She was soon the President of the PTA and was later approached to cover for the school librarian who was on maternity leave. Soon after she was offered the library

position and returned to school and received her Master's Degree in Library Science at Syracuse University. For more than 20 years, she enthusiastically embraced her career as an elementary school librarian and made a difference in many young people's lives, first at Lanigan Elementary School in Fulton, NY, then later, at the Martin and Hamilton Elementary Schools in Lancaster, PA.

Dorothy was active in professional and women's organizations, among them Delta Kappa Gamma, Coterie Club, and her community book club. After retiring in 1990, Dotty enjoyed traveling, crafting vacations at the John C. Campbell Folk School and education series with Quest for Learning. In 2010, she moved to Homestead Village retirement community and immersed herself in the many programs and activities there and also served as Homestead's Community Dining Services Chairperson.

Dorothy is survived by two sons, William D., husband of Yansong Ni, Germantown, MD, and Curtis C. Johnston, husband of Danielle Johnston, Wernersville, PA, and a daughter, Karen Jennings, wife of Rob Jennings, Chester Springs, PA. She is also survived by three grandchildren, Rebecca Jennings, Rob Jennings, and Lu Bai, and her beloved dog, Chloe.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend Dorothy's Life Celebration Memorial Service at Church of the Apostles, 1850 Marietta Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603, on Friday, March 1, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. The family will receive friends from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

A tree will be planted in Rader Park in Dorothy's memory at a private family ceremony in the spring near the tree planted in her husband's memory.

In lieu of flowers, the planting of a tree, shrub, or flowers in Dorothy's memory would be appreciated. Friends may also make a contribution to the Essa Flory

Center of Hospice & Community Care, P.O. Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604-4125, or to the ALS Association of Greater Philadelphia, 321 Norristown Rd., Ambler, PA 19002.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dorothy Helen Johnston*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *To the Johnston Family: Dottie was a personal and professional friend of ours during our teaching years at Hamilton Elementary School. We knew Dottie as a true educator and wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She worked so tirelessly for teachers and students at our school by presenting the most excellent Reading Program and Activities for all of us. She never gave up in going the extra mile in gathering materials, etc. for our staff to learn and participate with when it came to reaching higher goals. We remember her efforts in creating an interest in space exploration by inviting an astronaut to come to our school and talk to our students. He came and Dottie made it possible for us to see a real live astronaut with space tent and all! We will miss Dottie so much but our lives will always be better having known her as a personal friend and educator.*

Linda Harlan and Polly Rote

Linda Harlan - March 10, 2013 at 09:07 PM



“ *Our family remembers Dotty with great fondness. My mother, Ann Mickey, worked with her for several years at Hamilton Elementary School. They shared an enthusiasm for learning and teaching as they made a positive difference in the lives of many children. We all knew Dotty at Homestead Village. She was a lovely and gracious woman. Karen, it was always a joy to see you with your mother. The two of you had a special love and respect for one another. We are so sorry for your family's loss.*

Sarah Mickey Moore - February 26, 2013 at 11:42 PM

BD

“ Dear Karen and all,
We are all thinking of you and continuing to lift you up.
Stephanie and I will most certainly be planning the cultivation of a special 'collection' in our herb garden in honor of your mother.
Our hearts are heavy for you.
B, C, S, D

Barry, Cindy, Stephanie, and David - February 26, 2013 at 09:10 AM

DC

“ I had the pleasure of being Dotty's library colleague at the start of my career. Dotty was an excellent role model, and caring professional. Her gentle laugh and kind words will be missed!

Dave Calender - February 25, 2013 at 08:07 AM

BJ

“ Aunt Dotty - Thanks for taking care of me when I was a baby!

Bill Johnson - February 24, 2013 at 06:57 AM