



## Dorothy Milton Lukens

November 24, 1923 - July 19, 2005

Dorothy Laura Milton Lukens, 81, of Kensington, a former New Britain resident, died on Tuesday July 19, 2005 after a short illness at the Glastonbury Health Care Center surrounded by her family. She was predeceased by the love of her life, Robert C. Lukens, who died in 1982. “Dottie” was a free spirit who loved life. Born in San Antonio, Texas, daughter of the late Hugh and Marjorie Haug Milton, she was always a southern girl at heart. Dottie was a great bridge player, loved to do crosswords, read, and had a wonderful sense of humor. She worked at the Grove Hill Clinic for 18 years, retiring in 1982. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church; was a former officer of the New Britain YWCA Y-Wives; and was a former member of the DAR, New Britain Chapter; TRIMARCO Trinity Married Couples; and the Shuttle Meadow Country Club.

Surviving is her son, Gary M. Lukens and his wife Cathy of Kensington; her daughter and best friend, Debbie Lawrence and her husband Sheldon of Glastonbury; four grandchildren, Jason Lukens and his wife Stephanie of Berlin; Erin Duhaime and her husband Adam of North Windham; Ryan Lawrence of New Britain; and Eric Lawrence and his wife Kari of Wilton; four great grandchildren, Patrick, Gillian, Katherine, and Jocelyn; and a sister-in-law, Inge Lukens of Kensington. Besides her husband, she was predeceased by a brother-in-law, John Lukens.

Funeral services are Saturday 11 AM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Burial will follow in Maple Cemetery, Berlin. Calling hours are Friday 5 to 8 PM at the Carlson Funeral Home. The family requests that flowers be omitted and in lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the American Cancer Society, 538 Preston Ave. P.O. Box 1004, Meriden, CT 06450. The family wishes to offer special thanks to the Sub Acute unit at Avery Heights in Hartford, the Connecticut VNA Hospice and the staff of the Glastonbury Health Care Center that made mom's last few weeks comfortable.

Please share a memory of "Dottie" with her family on our online guestbook by clicking on "GUESTBOOK" at the bottom of this page.

# Tribute Wall

AL

“ I remember Dottie's warm laugh and the sparkle in her eye. I remember loving the family parties where the *WHOLE* Lukens clan was there - they were always much more fun. I remember great times at the Mountain Grove Club when the grownups stayed below to 'prepare' for the last day's work with some 'tomato juice', and I remember hoping that I'd always have family and friends that were so wonderful to be around. Dottie was an important piece of that family group and I know she will be missed.

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**Ann Lukens** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JC

“Dottie & Bob were good neighbors and friends to my parents, Dot & Len Ekwurtzel at #46 Hickory Hill Road. They met in 1960 when new houses were for sale across the street. Dottie & Bob, already settled in their lovely big Colonial, encouraged my folks to "take the plunge" and move to Kensington... thus began over 30 years of their association. Bob drove me & my dad and, I think, my sister Vivian too to our weddings at First Church New Britain, getting us "to the church on time". The two Dots shared their trials & triumphs in mothering & household management, with generous doses of good humor & laughter, over the years. My youngest sister, Lenore, became best friends with Debbie...they loved playing Barbie dolls together, but the Moms became concerned when they found Barbie & Ken sharing a bed!! Dottie came to my Dad's 85th birthday celebration 10/92...he passed away the next month. She arrived in high spirits, clad in a bright red dress, made a fuss over Len, and enjoyed visiting with all the guests. The last time John & I saw her was during our sad task of emptying my folks' home of 32 years. We shared memories of happier times and admired what was left of my Mom's collectibles. Sorry not to attend the calling hours or funeral last week...I had rehearsals for a choral workshop at those times, but the Lukens family was in my thoughts & prayers. Will send Vivian & Lenore a copy of Dottie's obituary and they will share your sadness. With sincere sympathy, Joanne Coghill

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Joanne Ekwurtzel Coghill - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ I couldn't say anything at my mother's funeral because I would have cried too much so I'm writing a little something in her honor from me.

*My mother had a tremendous love of life. She loved sitting in the sun, always wanted fresh air, enjoyed sitting on the breezeway reading a good book, loved listening to music particularly The Impossible Dream, Bolero and Once Upon a Time in America. She also had fun people-watching. When in a doctor's office, the door always had to be open so she could hear and see what was going on while waiting for the doctor to come in. Patience? Not an ounce. If someone was late - be it a doctor, someone to do work at her house or apartment or waiting for Gary or me to show up, she would let us know just how late we were. I always tried to show up early so that she wouldn't worry - she always worried. She would invariably say "I knew you'd be early". If I was 5 minutes late - "Where have you been - I've been worried".*

*We had so much fun together, so much laughter. She had spunk and lots of moxie. At family gatherings, you would never know what she would say that would shock and amaze everyone. When Eric and Ryan were in their teens, she would have them laughing and blushing. Once, she was talking about the fact that she had a hysterectomy who knows why that came up!. She would say "the playpen is still there, but the toys are gone". How many grandmothers would say that! I think she really enjoyed being a bit shocking and bold.*

*She had so many good and wonderful friends. They will miss her feistiness, her kindness and mostly her loyal friendship.*

*My mother and I loved playing cards, yhatzee and scrabble together. Having her visit for a few days was like having a sleep-over with a best friend. And she was truly my best friend.*

*I miss her like crazy and always will. So good-bye my best friend*

*and the most wonderful mother anyone can have.*

*Love you forever,*

*Debbie*

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**Debbie Lawrence** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

LL

“*Aunt Dorothy, I call her Aunt because from the time I married her nephew Jimmy Lukens, Aunt Dorothy made me feel like her niece, part of the Lukens clan. Ever the one to "tell it like it is" but always it seemed, with that mischievous grin of hers. We had fun teasing her about things but she always took it with a since of humor. I am so happy to have known her and to have been just a small part of her life.*

*Love you Aunt Dot*

*Linda Lukens*

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**Linda Lukens** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JL

“*My Aunt Dot always called them how she saw them...even when she shouldn't. I'll miss egging her on, making her that extra drink, watching her mortify Gary while she and Debbie laughed hysterically. We'll all miss her candor, for saying what we were all thinking but too timid or "politically correct" to say. May she rest in peace with my Uncle Bob, her Man of La Mancha.*

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**Jim Lukens** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MF

“*Dottie and Bob Lukens were a wonder to behold together, and a perfect combination. He with his Goldwater good looks, military bearing and no-nonsense, analytical mind, she with her frank, unfiltered and right-on observations, delivered fearlessly--on occasion in the middle of someone else's speech. She was a breath of fresh air in sometimes staid New England...and memories of her will always evoke a smile.*

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**Malo Forde** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

NF

“*I grew up with the words "Dottie Lukens" wafting through the house. That name and others of that tribe are my legacy, my history, my foundation. I find a wonderful symmetry in the idea that she who so often invoked that name my mother and Dottie are again chatting away on high.*

*Dottie's Gracie Allen malapropisms, her total, matter-of-fact acceptance of us, her light hearted sense of fun, and her steadfast friendship are imprinted on my DNA. We were all lucky she was with us.*

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**Nancy Fletcher** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM