



Dorothy J. T. Dedo

October 17, 1920 - June 27, 2019

Dorothy Junell Turner Dedo, 98, of Sarasota, Florida, died on June 27, 2019 at Glenridge on Palmer Ranch in Sarasota, Florida. She was born on October 17, 1920 to Raymond and Esther (Junell) Turner and spent her youth in Iron Mountain, Michigan, graduating from Iron Mountain High School in 1938. She graduated in 1942 from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and a teaching certification.

Dorothy enlisted in the US Navy during World War II shortly after it opened to women and was commissioned as an ensign. Her first duty assignment was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania expediting war production. After a year she was transferred to Naval Air Station Alameda, California where she served as a courier of top secret documents and assistant flag secretary. After the war ended, she served in two short assignments in Atlanta and near Washington, DC before serving as a personnel officer at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in North Chicago, Illinois. She left active duty late in 1951 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Dorothy married Lewis Joseph Dedo of Vulcan, Michigan on December 24, 1945. After leaving active duty Dorothy pursued a career as a full-time homemaker and mother. She moved to LaCrosse, Wisconsin in 1958 after her husband accepted a position as a mechanical engineer with the Trane Company.

Once her children were older she actively participated in numerous volunteer activities. She served with the La Crosse Community Theater, on the Wisconsin Governor's Council on the Status of Women, and for many years on the Viterbo University Board of Advisors. She was active in the La Crosse Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and served one term as Wisconsin State President of AAUW.

Dorothy served in several elective offices in the La Crosse area. She served as Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Town Chairman in the Town of Shelby, serving four years in each office. She also served four years as a La Crosse County Supervisor.

Dorothy was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority; the Michigan Alumni Association; the La Crosse Country Club; the Stoneybrook Golf and Country Club of Sarasota, Florida; English Lutheran Church in La Crosse, Wisconsin; and Faith Lutheran Church in Sarasota, Florida. She also was an avid fisher, golfer, skier, and world traveler.

Survivors include two sons, Craig Turner Dedo of Brookfield, Wisconsin and Drew Jonathan (Catherine Straggas) Dedo of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; a brother, William Turner; and a sister, Irene (Martin) Browning.

A memorial gathering will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., at Faith Lutheran Church, 7750 S. Beneva Road, Sarasota, FL 34238, on Tuesday, July 9.

Burial will be held at a later date in the Dedo family plot in the Norway Township Cemetery in Vulcan, Michigan.

Memorials are preferred and may be directed to Viterbo University (www4.viterbo.edu), the Women in Military Service Memorial (www.womensmemorial.org), or the charity of one's choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

JUL 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church
7750 S. Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34238

Memorial Service

JUL 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church
7750 S. Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34238

Tribute Wall



“ Thoughts and prayers from Amory Irby. I am so sorry for the loss of your mother, My mother, Vera Foster Irby and Dorothy served in the U.S. Navy together during World War II and after. Dorothy and my mother remained life long friends. Rest in peace.

Amory Irby - July 22, 2019 at 02:19 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Dorothy J. T. Dedo.



July 08, 2019 at 11:18 AM



“ Thoughts and prayers from the Izzos. My mom is very saddened to hear of Dorothy's passing. They were classmates and good friends through the years. June is now living at Evergreen assisted living in Kingsford and hopes Dorothy is resting in everlasting peace. Kathy Izzo Maynard

Kathy Izzo Maynard - July 06, 2019 at 04:15 PM