



Dorothy Frances Wilchynski

August 25, 1931 - November 3, 2024

Dorothy Frances Ryzewski-Wilchynski, widow of John Richard Wilchynski, passed in her home with her God, Jesus on November 3, 2024, with her family by her side. She leaves her only sister, Beverly Boughton of North Branford, her two children, Stephen and Karen. Stephen is married to Cathy Papa and Karen is married to John Keith Hajus who produced grandchildren, Stephanie Higgins (Brendan Higgins), Jessica LeClair (Ashton LeClair), Lauren Hajus and Claire Hajus. Dorothy was born August 25, 1931, in New Haven to the late Stephen & Frances Ryzewski, attended Sacred Heart School, attended Commercial High School, and was a member of the first class to graduate from Wilbur Cross High School. Next came Stone Business College where she learned to be a stenographer. First working for the Knights of Columbus as secretary in the medical department and then on to C.S Mersick & Co. in New Haven. Dorothy met John Richard Wilchynski (Richie to friends and family) at a dance at Warsaw Park and continued to dance throughout their lifetime as their main pleasure as husband and wife. Saturday night dances meant dressing up and meeting friends they made over the years who all loved ballroom and polka style dancing. Married in 1954, and five years later, decided it was time to start a family. After raising her children, Dorothy became secretary for the Connecticut Milk Dealer's Association for many years before retiring.

Dorothy & John traveled since their 25th anniversary and every year thereafter to many places, namely Italy, England, Scotland, Wales, Greece,

Las Vegas, New Orleans, Florida (Disney / Epcot), Hawaii, along with many cruises to various locations like Alaska and the Caribbean. The most memorable cruise was to Bermuda with the entire family.

For over 30 + years, Dorothy belonged to a group of neighborhood ladies calling themselves the “Knit Wits” that met on Thursday nights at each other’s homes crocheting, cross stitching and of course talking about each other’s week to gain support from one another.

Dorothy, for over 25 years, enjoyed swimming therapy for her two hips and one knee replacements at the pool at Gaylord rehab in Wallingford. She enjoyed the warm pool environment. When asked how the pool was today, she would say, “It was wonderful.” She met many friends at the pool including Sharon Giles and Jan Lyons who would frequently all go to lunch together after the pool.

For 30 years she enjoyed aerobics classes at the Hamden Senior center hall, rarely missing classes. She made many friends who she looked forward to seeing each week. You knew where Dorothy was every Friday morning, as she maintained a standing weekly appointment to have her hair done on Friday mornings.

She was most happy working outside in her backyard and feeding the many birds that came to her bird feeders.

Her family would like to recognize and thank Yale New Haven hospital staff, her primary care and cardiologist at Yale New Haven Health, Hospice in-home nurses and staff along with her in-home caregivers Esther, Maria “Chicky”, Michelle, Brenda and Denise for their support and caring of our mother.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary Cemetery

3102 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hour

NOV 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Sisk Brothers Funeral Home
3105 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT 06518
(203) 288-7114
siskfuneral@sbcglobal.net

Funeral Mass

NOV 9. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church
2819 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dorothy Frances Wilchynski.

November 10, 2024 at 10:29 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dorothy Frances Wilchynski.



November 10, 2024 at 10:29 AM



“ Stacey, Megan and Tim Baird purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Dorothy Frances Wilchynski.



Stacey, Megan and Tim Baird - November 08, 2024 at 10:45 AM



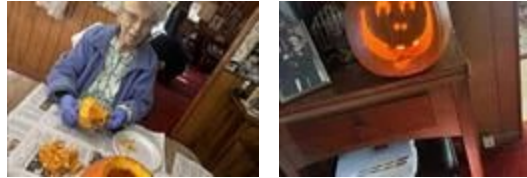
“ Todd F. Stevens purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dorothy Frances Wilchynski.



Todd F. Stevens - November 08, 2024 at 10:08 AM

MW

“ Oh Dorothy where do I start? This picture is my favorite carving Our pumpkin together. We did a lot of different things together with many laughs. You will always hold a special place in my heart. I know your resting pain free dancing the nights away with John!



Michelle wilson - November 08, 2024 at 09:37 AM

ER

Dorothy Dorothy words cannot explain how I feel the memories we had together Wil always be in my heart fly high my dear heaven has gained a beautiful soul u will be truly miss ❤️

Esther Roberts

Esther Roberts - November 08, 2024 at 12:20 PM

CJ

“ *Faith. Family friends and fun were cornerstones of Dorothy's life. She, like her mother and father, enjoyed life. She took care of herself and shared her joy with so many. She continued the legacy of a strong intelligent and hardworking woman like our paternal grandmother for sure. We were blessed by her example. May she rest in peace.*

Cousin Joe - November 08, 2024 at 07:10 AM

KR

“ For many years now our cousin Dorothy was the matriarch of the Ryzewski family. She never missed a family party, always dressed to the nines, generously shared her wisdom, and was always upbeat and a good time. She set the bar high for the rest of us. She will be missed - Krysta Ryzewski & the Ks

Krysta Ryzewski - November 07, 2024 at 09:45 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dorothy Frances Wilchynski.



November 07, 2024 at 09:35 PM

KB

“ Dorothy was the first born of eight grandchildren and only one to meet Grandpa Joseph Ryzewski. She loved good healthy food, family, and life. She was a teenager when her Uncle Raymond was born. Dorothy and Richard often went dancing with Ray and his wife Frances especially at American Legion events. She never missed an invitation to a birthday party, bridal or baby shower, or family reunion; even if it meant driving all the way to Southbury. She made the best baked beans “from scratch “ and Christmas cookies. Favorite memories: the year she wouldn’t take her Christmas tree down for months, wearing her signature color purple, and hearty laughter. Fondest: going to her apartment when I was around 5 and sitting close to her and Richard’s Christmas tree watching the now old fashioned bubbling candle lights.

Kathy Baird - November 07, 2024 at 07:00 PM

KH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karen Hajus - November 06, 2024 at 02:28 PM

KH

Dorothy was happiest when shopping!

Karen Hajus - November 06, 2024 at 03:11 PM

KH

“ 6 files added to the album Memories



Karen Hajus - November 06, 2024 at 02:14 PM

KH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karen Hajus - November 06, 2024 at 02:12 PM

KH

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Karen Hajus - November 06, 2024 at 02:11 PM

KH

“ 2 files added to the album Memories



Karen Hajus - November 06, 2024 at 02:11 PM